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FBIS-SOV-94-105 *1 June 1994*

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State Duma Favors Single External Border for CIS

LD3105214194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1924 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Russian State Duma will recommend that the government continue the talks with the CIS states aimed at concluding an international treaty on a single external border for the CIS and on its joint defense on a treaty basis. The State Duma will also demand that the Russian Government take measures in order to put an end to any uncontrolled and illegal traffic of goods through the border, especially to the Baltic states and to transferring financial funds from Russia to foreign banks. This was stated in the draft resolution which is expected to be adopted as a result of the closed parliamentary hearings in the State Duma on the Russian state borders today.

The draft resolution has been worked out by the parliamentary Committee on Geo-Politics (led by Viktor Ustinov from the faction of the Liberal Democratic Party). It also recommends that the government prevent uncontrolled traffic of foreigners and persons without citizenship to Russia, especially those from China and Korea, and deport all foreigners and persons without citizenship illegally staying on Russian territory.

In accordance with the draft resolution, the Duma Committees on Geo-Politics and International Affairs are expected to set up working groups which will also examine the possible conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan taking into consideration the declaration of 1956 on the Shikotan and Habomai islands.

There will also be established working groups in order to make the appropriate preparations for ratification of the UN Convention on Maritime Law of 1982 and in order to assess the agreements between the USSR and the U.S.A. on the line of delimitation of maritime space.

Main Staff of CIS Armed Forces Said Superseded

MK0106074094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Hold The Front Page!" rubric: "CIS Troops Brought Into Moscow"]

[Text] It has come to MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS's attention that the Main Staff of the CIS Joint Forces has finally ceased to exist.

It has been transformed into a staff for coordination in the area of military cooperation. Out of the 480 officers, 360 have retired. The remaining 120 Russian staff officers will be supplemented by 120 officers from the CIS-states' armed forces.

Russian military men who have gone through the General Staff school are not forming a high opinion about the newly arriving officers. At the moment the staff for coordination of military cooperation has begun to fulfill its first mission—to form the military part of a concept of military security of... Russia.

Former CEMA States Agree To Standardize Antimonopoly Policy

MK3105075094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 31 May 94 p 2

[Vladimir Alisov (ADS) report under the "Competition" rubric: "Unified Eurasian Antimonopoly Space Being Formed"]

[Text] Unfair competition will soon be unable to hide behind the picket fence of the national borders of former republics of the USSR and the defunct CEMA [Council for Ecoonomic Mutual Assistance]: Participants in a conference of the leaders of antimonopoly organs of CIS countries, Latvia, Lithuania, and countries of Eastern Europe—Bulgaria, Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic—have agreed to exchange, within one month, antimonopoly normative acts, laws and draft laws.

The Kiev conference, in which chiefs of the CIS Executive Secretariat took part, ended late last week. Having compared notes on antimonopoly activities, the participants decided to sum up their experience and, having further set up special working groups to coordinate efforts in building a competition-based economy for their countries, to standardize their antimonopoly laws. It was also decided to initiate an exchange of information on the state of commodity markets and the results of scientific research work and to exchange specialists in the field of antimonopoly activity.

The brunt of the coordination of this work falls on the interstate CIS Council for Antimonopoly Policy, whose second sitting took place within the Kiev meeting framework. Among other things, it worked out proposals to the Executive Committee and the CIS Interparliamentary CIS Assembly on harmonization of antimonopoly laws within the framework of the Treaty on the Conduct of a Concerted Antimonopoly Policy signed by the CIS heads of government in Ashkhabad [Ashgabat] in December 1993. Bulgaria wanted to accede to the treaty; participants in the conference supported its initiative on creating an interstate association on competition policy.

Communists Agree on Plan To Restore USSR

PM3105113194 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 May 94 p 1

["Resolution of the Coordinating Meeting of the Communist Parties of States Formed on the Territory of the USSR on the Political and Socioeconomic Situation in States on the Territory of the USSR and the Tasks of Strengthening the Unity of Communists," signed by party representatives in Moscow on 22 May 1994: "Common Goals"]

[Text] A meeting of delegations of communist parties of states formed on the territory of the USSR and a

delegation of the Council of the Union of Communist Parties-CPSU [UCP-CPSU] was held in Moscow 21-22 May 1994.

An exchange of opinions was held on the political and socioeconomic situation in the states on the territory of the USSR and on further steps to strengthen the unity of the communist movement.

The participants in the meeting note that the years since the criminal destruction of the USSR—contrary to the will of the peoples—have confirmed the correctness of the fundamental assessments of the congresses of the communist parties of the states and of the conclusions of the 29th CPSU Congress. The pursuit of sovereignty has checked the economic development of all the states, while the economic reforms being pursued are a mere screen for a tiny section of the population to appropriate the national wealth created by generations of Soviet people.

The collapse of the Union, the plundering of national wealth, and the emergence of unbridled nationalism have split the Soviet people up into national compartments and divided them into a handful of rich and millions of poor. All this has resulted in economic catastrophe and a drastic worsening of ethnic and social conflicts. The economic damage inflicted on the Soviet people and our common Homeland is five times greater than that caused during all the years of war against fascist Germany. Hundreds of thousands of Soviet people have perished in ethnic wars and millions have become refugees or jobless, doomed to suffer misery and poverty.

The lofty achievements of our national culture are being displaced by Western mass culture, with its cult of money and violence. Free medical care and education are being replaced by paid services, which are becoming beyond the means of an ever-increasing number of citizens. Millions of people waiting in line for housing or actually homeless are losing hope of obtaining accommodations. Only the death rate, corruption, and criminality are on the increase. The death rate exceeds the birth rate in the majority of former Union republics. Three to four times as many people die each year at the hands of criminals than during the 10 years of the Afghan War.

In these conditions the peoples of the states are beginning to realize the antipeople nature of the ruling regimes and to pin their hopes on replacing them by establishing people's power based on an upsurge of the communist movement and progressive left-wing forces.

The states' party organizations have drawn the requisite lessons from their heavy defeat. They have cleared out the traitors, careerists, and timeservers. The majority of the states' Communist Parties are completing their organizational formation and are waging a hard-hitting campaign on behalf of the interests of workers, the working peasantry, and the people's intelligentsia.

The common goals of the states' communist parties are as follows:

- service to the working people;
- socialism and communism as the historic future of mankind, freedom and social equality, collectivism, social justice, and genuine humanity;
- the achievement, defense, and strengthening of the political power of working people in the form of soviets and the development of socialist democracy and broad self-management by the people;
- resistance to the restoration of capitalism and the resumption of a socialist path of development in the republics of the USSR—which most fully meets working people's social needs;
- the ending of ethnic conflicts and the prevention of civil wars on the territory of the USSR;
- the restoration of the USSR as a voluntary association of sovereign states based on the principles of Soviet patriotism, internationalism, the fraternity of the peoples, and respect for national traditions in accordance with the decision of the nationwide referendum of 17 March 1991, when three-quarters of the adult population of the country expressed itself in favor of retaining the USSR;
- the reconstitution of single republic Communist Parties and their amalgamation as the USSR is restored into a single Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

In defining their political strategy and tactics the parties are guided by Marxist-Leninist teaching and materialist dialectics in their creative development and underpinned by analysis of the specific historical situation and the achievements of national and world science and culture.

The parties employ both parliamentary and nonparliamentary means of political struggle within the bounds of existing legislation to achieve their set goals.

While endorsing the correctness and timeliness of the 29th CPSU Congress decision on the temporary reorganization of the CPSU into the UCP-CPSU, the participants in the meeting consider that the states' communist parties are, while maintaining their own organizational autonomy, program documents, and rules, an integral part of a single communist movement on the territory of the USSR.

The participants in the meeting note that certain provisions of the UCP-CPSU Rules and Program are out of date and do not take full account of the special features of the work of the states' communist parties in modern conditions. The conference instructs the UCP-CPSU Council, in conjunction with authorized representatives of the parties, to draft common principles governing programs and rules and to submit them for examination at the 30th UCP-CPSU Congress and other partywide forums.

The participants in the meeting regard the present coordinating conference of leaders of the communist parties of all the states formed on the territory of the USSR as a standing conference.

The participants in the meeting instruct all communist parties to concentrate their efforts on elaborating and theoretically validating our common goals, coordinating the parties' joint efforts to achieve them, propagating the experience of political work in labor collectives, and supporting and disseminating communist and opposition socialist-oriented mass media.

The participants in the meeting condemn all attempts to split the communist parties and their regional organizations and the creation of multiple communist centers and advise communists to unite in single organizations to enhance their influence among workers, peasants, and the intelligentsia. Parties can and should observe proper standards of party ethics in debating questions relating to different understandings of theoretical problems and the tactics and strategy of practical actions in discussions within the party.

The participants in the meeting urge all communists to campaign actively for the unity of the communist movement on the territory of the Soviet Union, to be resolute in defending the interests of working people, and to enhance the level of organization and party discipline. Our goals are: the Soviet Union, power to the soviets of working people's deputies, a single Communist Party, and socialism.

[Signed] On behalf of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, R. Akhmedov, chairman of the Central Executive Committee; on behalf of the Communist Party of Armenia, S. Badalyan, secretary of the Central Committee; on behalf of the Party of Communists of Belarus, V. Novikov, secretary of the Central Committeee; on behalf of the Communist Party of Working People of Georgia, I. Tsiklauri, secretary of the Central Committee; on behalf of the Party of Communists of Kirghizia [Kyrgyzia], K. Azhybekova, deputy chairman of the PCK Central Executive Committee; on behalf of the Union of Communists of Latvia, signature [podpis]; on behalf of the Communist Party of Lithuania, signature; on behalf of the Communist Party of Working People of the Dniester Region, I. Koshevoy, first secretary of the Republic Committee; on behalf of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, G. Zyuganov, chairman of the Central Executive Committee; on behalf of the Russian Communist Workers' Party, V. Tyulkin, first secretary of the Central Committee; on behalf of the League of Communists, A. Prigarin, secretary of the League of Communists (Russia) Central Committee; S. Stepanov [as published, without designation]; on behalf of the Communist Party of the Republic of Tatarstan, A. Saliy, first secretary of the Republic Committee; on behalf of the UCP-CPSU, O. Shenin, chairman of the UCP-CPSU Council; on behalf of the Communist Party of Tajikistan , Sh. Shavdolov, chairman; on behalf of the Organizing Committee for the Reconstitution of the Communist Party of Turkmenistan, M. Rotko, member of the Organizing Committee; on behalf of the Communist Party of Ukraine, A. Martynyuk, secretary of the Central Committee; on behalf of the Organizing Committee for the Restoration of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan, P. Turayev, member of the Organizing Committee; on behalf of the Communist Party of the Republic of South Ossetia, S. Kochiyev, chairman of the Central Executive Committee; on behalf of the Communist Party of Estonia, signature. Lenin Hills, Moscow, 22 May 1994

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 1 Jun

LD0106055694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0447 GMT 1 Jun 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS—Russian newspapers comment on President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Tatarstan.

TRUD writes that "the visit can be viewed as a practical step to flesh out the treaty between Russia and Tatarstan on the delimitation of the spheres of competence and mutual delegation of powers". The newspaper emphasises the president's words that "this is the first such treaty. So, the Russian president shows special interest in how it is being carried into life."

ROSSIISKIYE VESTI notes that "Yeltsin began his familiarisation with the reform process in Tatarstan with a visit to the kamaz in order to decide on how the automotive workers can be helped". One of major sections of the kamaz—a motor engine manufacturing plant—is known to have been gutted out by fire on April 14, last year. "Measures to help overcome this problem are expected to be the basis of one of future economic agreements," the newspaper reports.

PRAVDA points out that "the Russia-Tatarstan treaty, undoubtedly, has opened the door for the establishment of constructive relations of trust between the central authority and regions". The newspaper quotes the Russian president as saying that "the treaty between Moscow and Kazan has become a precedent on the basis of which relations between Russia and Chechnya as well as between the Crimea and Ukraine could be settled".

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA evaluates the results of the the president's two-day visit as follows: "Yeltsin is satisfied with his stay in Tatarstan. It remains to implement the bilateral treaty between Moscow and Kazan".

SEGODNYA (TODAY) newspaper carries an article headlined "Zhirinovskiy Repays Debts to the GMM" about a relationship between the Liberal Democratic Party leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and the GMM trust company. The newspaper reproduces Zhirinovskiy's letter, addressed to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. In the letter, Zhirinovskiy requests assistance in

settling "relations between the GMM and financial agencies as well as a resumption of televised advertising on state-run broadcasting channels".

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA runs an article in which writer Eduard Limonov criticises LDPR leader Zhirinovskiy.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA reports that the MMM joint-stock company has again incurred financial losses. This time owing to an attack of the company's money collectors who were robbed of money amounting to 1,500 million roubles. "None of three robberies has been exposed so far. But then the MMM remains one of few firms which avoid businesslike contacts with the 38 Petrovka criminal investigation department."

PRAVDA runs an article by retired Colonel Robert Bykov about Pavel Grachev in his capacity as Russia's defence minister. The writer of the article critically evaluates the minister's activities, pointing out his inconsistency.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) reports that an expedition to the area of the sunken nuclear-powered submarine Komsomolets is planned in the coming months. The submarine with two torpedoes is known to have met with an accident in Norwegian Sea. The newspaper points out that the environment can be contaminated as a result of the corrosion of the torpedoes, each of which contains 3,200 grammes of plutonium. "According to the most pessimistic expert forecasts, this may happen at the end of 1995 or early in 1996".

Kozyrev Addresses Moscow Meeting With U.S. Senators

LD3105145194 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1200 GMT 31 May 94

[Report over video by correspondent A. Peslyak; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Sergey] Yushenkov, [chairman of State Duma Committee for Defense], said that comparison of the systems of civilian control over the armed forces in the two countries [United States and Russia] shows that our system is not developed.

Russian Foreign Minister [Andrey Kozyrev] said that it is not democratic to lay down the condition that Russia should unilaterally accept the obligation to end arms supplies to certain regions in the country before talks can start. We are for stability without conditions being laid down for one side. The Karabakh conflict, which has destabilized the situation in the Caucasus, creates problems for us on our southern border, yet some people abroad see us as neo-imperialists here, rather than as peacekeepers, and even regard Russia's efforts as being opposed to those of the CSCE.

Further on Kozyrev Remarks

LD3105184894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1335 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Moscow has no intention of giving up weapons exports to third world countries unilaterally without prior talks with the West, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said in Moscow on Tuesday. At a meeting with U.S. congressmen led by Senator Sam Nunn, he dwelt upon Russian arms exports to Iran which are causing western concern.

"Let us work together over the rules of weapons exports (to third countries)", Kozyrev said. "Asking Russia to undertake commitment not to export weapons(to Iran) unilaterally as a condition for talks on the issue is not only out of line with the spirit of partnership with our western allies, but it also brings to mind the worst in our common history", he said.

About Nagorno-Karabakh, the minister said that Russia was alone prepared to send peacekeepers to that area of conflict poisoning the situation on both sides of the Caucasus and posing threat to its southern fringes.

"Meanwhile, we are being accused of neo-imperialism on the grounds that a political solution must be found to the conflict before sending peacekeepers to the region", he said.

Kozyrev said that instead of the assistance Moscow would welcome, the West preferred to act as inspector driving in a wedge in efforts by Russia and the CSCE to try to settle the conflict. "This is not a partnership approach", he said.

For details, refer to Diplomatic Panorama of May 31.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Holds News Conference

LD3105111494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0951 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow, 31 May (ITAR-RASS)—[Senator] Sam Nunn and other U.S. senators will propose to President Bill Clinton that the first joint U.S-Russian military exerises within the framework of the peacekeeping forces should be held on the territory of the United States and not Russia, Sam Nunn, chairman of the U.S. Armed Services Committee of the Senate, said today at a news conference in Moscow which summed up the results of the working meeting between the parliamentarians of the United States and the Russian Federation on questions of defense and security.

The U.S. delegation was composed of seven senators—four Republicans and three Democrats—highly assessed the results of the meeting. "We received enthusiastically the idea of civilian control [kontrol] over nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction," Sam Nunn noted. He stressed that the United States and Russia should step up their work to reduce the risk of weapons of mass destruction being used.

The sides agreed that it is necessary to do everything to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and of missile technology. "The United States, Russia, and other great powers have no interest at all in nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological weapons spreading around the world," Sam Nunn noted.

Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the Committee for Defense of the State Duma, called the meeting between the parliamentarians of the two great powers a "significant event". During the two-day discussion, he noted, problems concerning external security and defense policy were discussed. The sides stressed that civilian control over the armed forces has great importance for strengthening the system of mutual security. "Joint Russian-American military exercises are the symbol of trust between the two countries," Sergey Yushenkov said. "In this respect, the implementation of other programs in the military sphere, including the Partnership for Peace program, are also of great importance," he said.

The two parliamentary defense committees agreed to continue the dialogue which, to all appearances, will take place on the territory of the United States now.

Duma Committeeman, U.S. Senator Interviewed

LD3005210194

[Editorial Report] Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian at 1815 GMT on 30 May carries a 45-minute live studio interview with Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the Russian State Duma Defense Committee, and U.S. Senator Sam Nunn, head of the Armed

Forces Committee of the U.S. Senate, by an unidentified correspondent. Nunn speaks in English with passage-by-passage translation into Russian.

The guests discuss topics related to Russo-American relations and answer a few questions phoned in by listeners. Nunn introduces himself and speaks briefly about his military career.

The correspondent reports that, as of today, Russian, British, and U.S. missiles are no longer aimed at each other. Nunn says partnership and trust are growing and adds that today's meeting was a step in the right direction. He says that relations are developing in many areas. Yushenkov then reiterates Nunn's words regarding the end of missile targeting.

Nunn says that he, Yushenkov, Lukin, and others discussed the issue of joint maneuvers. He says they are intended to be a small- arms, peacekeeping enterprise and that there is no requirement that the maneuvers be held at the Totskoye proving ground. He asks why the maneuvers could not be held in the United States. Nunn then says that the Defense Department must decide these things, but he hopes other senators will support them on the question of joint maneuvers. Yushenkov says the maneuvers will also help the two sides to train together should a real conflict emerge. Nunn agrees.

The guests then discuss the arms embargo against Bosnia.

Yushenkov reads a quote from Jean Kirkpatrick that the only successful U.S. military operation since World War II was in the Gulf War. He says that other so-called peacekeeping operations have resulted in great losses and says that intervention should only be accompanied by military action.

Nunn says he does not agree that there have been no successful peacekeeping operations. He cites Cambodia and the Sinai as good examples.

Yushenkov says he is an opponent of using force as a means toward peace. He says there are many examples of this throughout Russia, and it is impossible to determine who is the aggressor and who is the victim in various hot spots. Nunn agrees and says that the United States must be very careful where it puts peacekeeping forces.

The moderator asks the guests if they believe Russia and the United States should compete in arms sales. Nunn says the United States has not chosen to be a competitor; it has happened naturally, due to economic reasons. Yushenkov says Russia has reduced its arms sales drastically compared with the United States.

A listener asks whether Russia and the United States are not tired of opposing each other. Nunn says yes, that even friends have differences, but they should be discussed together. He says the aftermath of the Cold War—in the form of thousands of nuclear and chemical weapons in both countries—must be remembered. He adds that biological weapons also need to be eliminated. Yushenkov says he is not only tired of making war but he abhors it. He says that Nunn is coauthor of an amendment on aid to CIS countries for the destruction of nuclear weapons.

Another listener asks whether there might be a third force or group of countries that would want to aim its missiles at both the United States and Russia. Nunn says he put this question to the military in the 1980's to find out the potential of both countries to repel an attack by a third country.

Yushenkov says both countries' efforts should be aimed at improving the effectiveness of the United Nations, the CSCE, and the Partnership for Peace program.

The moderator asks both guests what they would like to be remembered about them.

Nunn says he would like to think he made the world a bit safer and more peaceful. Yushenkov says he would like the Duma to pass a law on alternative military service and an effective law on control of the military.

Nunn on Cooperation in Nuclear Nonproliferation

LD3105134994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1015 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Arseniy Mironov]

[Text] Moscow, 31 May—"Russia, the United States, and the other nuclear powers must recognize that it is in their common interests to fight the proliferation of nuclear weapons," Sam Nunn, chairman of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, said at a news conference here today. At the request of ITAR-TASS, he commented upon reports in the British media that the possibility of the special services of the Russian Federation, the United States, and Great Britain cooperating on collecting information on attempts by certain countries to create their own nuclear weapons is being discussed at the diplomatic level.

S. Nunn stressed that ideas on this kind of cooperation had been put forward by Senator Warren, by experts of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, and by himself a few years ago. The senator said: "It is a tragic paradox that now that confrontation between the nuclear powers is a thing of the past, our countries are defenseless in the face of a nuclear threat from terrorist groups." The report that the special services have begun to hold talks on cooperating in this sphere is "good news," Senator Nunn noted.

Working Meeting Discusses Russian-U.S. Maneuvers

LD3105202294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1845 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] It is expedient to hold the first joint exercises of the Russian and American peacekeeping forces scheduled for this summer in the Orenburg region on the

territory of the United States. This conclusion was reached in the course of a working meeting between the Russian parliamentarians and members of the American Senate held on Tuesday in Moscow. This information was made public at a press conference attended by the Chairman of the State Duma Committee on Defense Sergey Yushenkov, head of the analogous committee of the US Senate Sam Nunn, leader of the State Duma committee on international affairs Vladimir Lukin, and Senator Robert Couts.

Responding to INTERFAX, Yushenkov indicated that "a campaign of protest against the presence of the American forces in the center of Russia is being waged in Orenburg and around it, it is difficult to conduct exercises in such a situation." However, the new variant providing for the exercises in the U.S. "will be subject to obstruction—now due to the spending of state funds for the transfer of our forces across the ocean," Yushenkov believes.

At the same time Yushenkov and Nunn believe that it is necessary to conduct such joint maneuvers "as a symbol of confidence and partnership between our countries." In particular, Nunn declared that "the American people will welcome Russian servicemen on their soil."

Missile Forces Commander Praises Missile Retargeting

LD3005201694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1313 GMT 30 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 30 May—Russia and the strategic offensive forces of the United States and Great Britain have taken effective step to create a higher nuclear threshold in the world, Lieutenant General Viktor Yesin, head of the operations directorate of the main staff of the Russian strategic missile forces, told an ITAR-TASS correspondent today. In his opinion, the retargeting of missiles at deserted sea areas, carried out under existing agreements, will not diminish the combat readiness of Russia's nuclear forces. [passage omitted]

Gen. Yesin said that all retargeting operations had been completed within agreed deadlines and that they guarantee, as envisaged in the agreements, a reduction of the nuclear danger worldwide. In his words, this act of goodwill and mutual trust does not free the strategic missile forces from the obligation to defend the motherland and to maintain strategic stability on the planet.

U.S. Military Delegation Completes Visit

LD2905011894 Moscow Radio Moscow in Russian to Tajikistan 1600 GMT 28 May 94

[From the "Slavyanka" program of the Russian Defense Ministry]

[Text] Russia and the United States have shared their experience in training officers for ground troops, the ground forces Press center reports. A U.S. military delegation led by General John (Fraser), deputy head of the ground troops training center, today completed its work in the Russian Armed Forces. The delegation had been staying in Moscow since 22 May in accordance with a treaty on contacts between Russian and U.S. armed forces. In the course of the visit, the Americans visited the Vystrel advanced training courses for officers and the Taman motorized rifle division. In the training classes and at the test grounds they familiarized themselves with the training of Russian officers and shared their experience in officer training.

Deputy Condemns Obstruction of Russian Weapons Export

LD3105212494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1919 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Fair play with Russia in the world weapons market would not hurt U.S. strategic interests, Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the State Duma Defense Committee said today.

He told INTERFAX that Washington's obstruction of Russian weapon export, as in the case of the failed sales of MiG-29 fighter planes to Venezuela, forced Russia to deal with undesirable partners.

As a result, Yushenkov said, odious dictatorial regimes obtained weapons through third or fourth countries and created tension for the entire world community.

Congress Cuts U.S. Aid to CIS; Russia's Share Reduced

PM3105152694 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 May 94 p 3

[Aleksandr Shalnev report: "U.S. Aid to the CIS To Be Reduced"]

[Text] The U.S. Congress House of Representatives has appropriated $875 million for programs to assist reforms in Russia and other countries of the former Union in the 1995 fiscal year, which begins 1 October of this year.

This is $25 million less than planned by President Clinton's administration. According to the administration's proposals, Russia will receive a little less than one-half of the allocated sum. This is Washington's new policy; in previous years it has, on the contrary, alloted Russia first place in determining the proportion of aid to be assigned.

Defense Minister Ends Visit to Brussels

LD2805143594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1401 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS—Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev returned to Moscow on Saturday

from Belgium where he was on an official visit. During the visit Grachev addressed NATO leaders in Brussels to present them with Russia's concept of partnership with the West and its new military doctrine and held talks with NATO officials.

On the way back to Russia Grachev made a stopover in Wuensdorf where the Western group of Russian troops is stationed to discuss the withdrawal of troops due to be completed this August.

German 'Dismay' at Grachev Comments Noted

PM3105153194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 May 94 p 3

[Yevgeniy Bobkun report: "Germany Showing No Signs of Coming to Its Senses After Pavel Grachev's Statements in Brussels"]

[Text] Bonn—"A good man, but dangerous": This is how one top NATO chief, returning to Bonn from Brussels, assessed the Russian defense minister. The FRG's military-political circles are alarmed by provisions in Russia's military doctrine making possible intervention in the "Near Abroad." "Moscow proposes to move probable conflict on Russia's borders onto the territory of the opponent as quickly as possible," WELT AM SONTAG writes.

The initial euphoria of the participants in the Brussels conference quickly turned to dismay when they listened to Pavel Grachev, the German general acknowledged. When the guest from Moscow reassured his NATO colleagues that the Russian Army does not intend to save national minorities in the "Near Abroad," everyone sighed with relief. But, when he added: "Unless the relevant countries want this," NATO went on its guard. This phrase reminded many irresistibly of the "call for help" to Moscow from Czechoslovakia and other countries when it was necessary to crush popular uprisings in the "Soviet spheres of influence."

FRG Defense Minister V. Ruehe, who has long advocated the expansion of NATO to include the states of Central and East Europe, rejected Grachev's proposals to establish a "strategic" partnership between Moscow and NATO.

Meanwhile, the Bundeswehr leadership has announced that the new partners' Armed Forces— Poland's, for example—have already begun to adapt their structures to NATO's. At the request of the Hungarian Government Bundeswehr General Winfried Dunkel recently went to Budapest with the same purpose. The Baltic states have also approached Germany with a request for aid in reequiping and redirecting their forces. In particular, they are asking for tanks from the former arsenals of the GDR Army.

General Helge Hansen, commander of the allied joint forces in Central Europe, has announced that the first staff exercises with the participation of Poland, Ukraine, the Czech Republic, and Estonia will take place on FRG territory in October of this year.

It is not only the newcomers who will have to adapt to the new conditions of partnership. Germany will be required to elaborate new juridical prerequisites for the presence on its territory of troop subunits of the Eastern countries who come to the FRG with their arms and combat equipment. If, for example, a Polish regiment returns home from the exercises, then, under the currently existing provision of the law on arms export controls, it will have to leave its equipment behind in Germany.

DPRK Nuclear Program Overshadows Kim Visit

PM3105180394 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 3

[Aleksandr Golts article: "President Abroad, Army on Heightened Combat Readiness"]

[Text] Reports from Seoul to the effect that South Korea's Army and police have been put on heightened combat readiness in connection with President Kim Yong-sam's visit to Moscow that begins today will elicit an understanding smile from the Russian citizen. Experience shows that diverse problems may occur in the absence of the country's leader. That is why a state of heightened combat readiness is introduced in South Korea when the head of state goes abroad.

This is particularly understandable now, when there are no signs of any easing of tension in the situation on the Korean Peninsula. And I think that this fact cannot but affect Kim Yong-sam's upcoming talks with Boris Yeltsin. Needless to say, our bilateral relations do not revolve around problems of security. However, one is bound to see that the problems of trade links and economic cooperation are in principle no different from those that Russia has with other developed states. There is also the question of Russia's debt to South Korea and the difficulties standing in the way of South Korean investors owing to our imperfect Russian legislation and Western businessmen's fears due to the vagueness of our reforms.

There is no doubt that attention will be paid to all this during the talks. However, the special feature of these summit-level contacts between Moscow and Seoul is that South Korea now seems extremely interested in cooperating with Russia on the problem of nuclear security on the peninsula.

Kim Yong-sam's visit is taking place at a time when relations between the DPRK and the world community have deteriorated again owing to suspicions regarding Pyongyang's nuclear program. North Korea's leaders have once again upped the stakes in their game of nuclear poker. Judging by statements by representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], the DPRK is replacing the fuel rods at the Yongbyon nuclear

reactor without allowing this international organization's inspectors to monitor this operation as they would like. It is a question of an opportunity to find out what plutonium stocks the DPRK has and consequently to determine whether or not it has the capability of manufacturing nuclear munitions.

The UN Security Council urged the DPRK in a special statement to meet the IAEA's demands. This elicited an abrupt reproof from Pyongyang. In this situation the wave of hypotheses regarding possible tough measures against the DPRK is growing. In particular, people are saying that the question of these measures will be one of the main ones to be discussed at the coming G-7 meeting in Naples (the Russian president will also take part in it). At the same time military measures are also being rehearsed. Thus, during the Rimpac-94 maneuvers a joint grouping of U.S., Japanese, and South Korean ships will be formed for the first time. Some experts regard this as a rehearsal for joint actions in the event of the situation on the Korean Peninsula worsening.

I will not venture to judge whether this pressure will have any effect on the DPRK. But South Korea seems to be afraid of further fueling tension. In particular, President Kim Yong-sam stressed in an interview with NEWSWEEK that he considers the reports exaggerated. Thus Moscow's and Seoul's positions may be close in a desire to find real solutions to the situation and give the DPRK a chance to meet the IAEA's demands and "save face." That is precisely the purpose of the Russian proposal to hold an international conference on the problems of nuclear security on the Korean Peninsula. Seoul is also worried about the way Moscow interprets the treaty concluded between the USSR and the DPRK in 1961. In one way or another life itself is pointing to Russia as an extremely important player in resolving both the peninsula's nuclear problem and other problems of Asian security.

ROK Interested in Boosting Cooperation With Russia

LD3105135994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1242 GMT 31 May 94

[By BUSINESS-TASS correspondent Irina Bolshova]

[Text] Moscow May 31 TASS—Despite some unsettled problems in Russian-South Korean economic relations, South Korean Government and business quarters display interest in developing trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation with greater number of Russian enterprises and firms and in establishing contacts with the administrations of Russian regions, Russian Foreign Economic Relations Minister Oleg Davydov told BUSINESS-TASS here on Tuesday.

The unsettled nature of credit relations is the main problem in bilateral contacts. This greatly limits the sphere of cooperation at the interstate level, the minister noted.

Under the pretext of unsettled Russian debts, South Korea continues to enforce several secret limitations on trade and economic relations with Russia, including abstention from state crediting and insurance of foreign trade deals and investment projects.

This creates some difficulties, especially for small and medium South Korean firms, Davydov stressed.

Nevertheless, the year 1993 registered growth in Russian-South Korean trade turnover which was worth 1.5 billion U.S. dollars, the minister said. Russian export nearly doubled as compared with 1992, totalling 960 million dollars.

Import from South Korea rose by 45 per cent, amounting to 530 million dollars. "I state with regret," Davydov noted, "that Russian export to South Korea consisted mostly of raw materials (98.4 per cent)."

On the other hand, a trend for purchasing ready-made consumer goods rather than industrial equipment became more prominent in imports.

It is expected that Davydov will hold talks on current issues of Russian-South Korean trade and economic cooperation with South Korean President Kim Yong-sam who will arrive in Moscow on an official visit on Wednesday.

Coolness of Japanese-Russian Relations Viewed

PM3105160194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 May 94 p 3

[Leonid Mlechin report: "Japanese Embassy Competing for Title of Most Active in Moscow"]

[Text] The new Japanese prime minister, Hata, has taken an unexpectedly hard line toward Russia's participation in the forthcoming conference of the seven leading powers in Naples. What is this—a new policy from Tokyo or coincidence?

After Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan, the process of the clarification of relations between Moscow and Tokyo through conflict and outrage has entered a sluggish stage: It is thought that there will be no more surprises, pleasant or unpleasant. Only professional Russian patriots still suspect President Yeltsin and Minister Kozyrev of harboring a secret desire to sell off the Kuril islands.

In the president's entourage, beginning with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, there are no politicians prepared to fulfill the provisions of the 1956 Soviet-Japanese declaration and renounce either two or four islands at the southern end of the Kurils chain.

When Tokyo objects to Russia's full-fledged participation in the G-7 conference, this looks like an attempt to obtain something from Russia by barter.

When Koji Watanabe, Japanese ambassador in Moscow, spoke tc me he protested keenly: The new prime minister cannot take a tough line. Hata came to Moscow as foreign minister and vice premier in mid-March and talked with Viktor Chernomyrdin and Andrey Kozyrev about expanding dialogue between the two countries and about Russia's role in the world economy. Meanwhile, the future premier was not received by Boris Yeltsin on that occasion, a fact which hardly left the Japanese visitor with fond memories.

The top Moscow leadership has lost interest in political talks with Japan. The level of diplomacy has fallen to that of Poland.

Ambassador Watanabe refuses to recognize that Russian-Japanese relations are deadlocked:

"From the day that I arrived in Moscow back in January this year I have heard the most appalling predictions about hyperinflation, disorder, and political destabilization. Not one of them has come true."

The 60-year old Koji Watanabe is well known for his love of an open fire, which he kindles himself, his nostalgia for the warmth of Italy, where he represented his country before coming to Moscow, and the frenetic energy with which he acquainted himself with all the even slightly well known people in the Russian capital in just a few months.

"I do not know whether I understand correctly what is going on in Russia," Koji Watanabe remarked. "Sometimes it seems to me that I have understood something but then the next week I come to the conclusion that I was hasty..."

Russian diplomats specializing in Japan consider Koji Watanabe a hypercautious diplomat who avoids improvization and adheres strictly to instructions received from Tokyo.

The Washington embassy is regarded as Japan's most important mission; it has 50 percent more staffers than the Moscow embassy. The embassies in Moscow and Beijing are in second place. And Tokyo treats its embassies differently.

The small embassy building on Kalashnyy Lane used to have a dining room for more than 60 diplomatic staff. The Japanese Foreign Ministry considered it an unnecessary luxury to pay for a chef and the dining room was closed. To make up for it, staffers at the Japanese embassy in Moscow have been given three weeks' extra recuperation leave. That detail provides the best illustration of how the Japanese see life in Russia.

Churkin Says Jun 'Major' Month for Bosnia Settlement

LD2105211594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2052 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Zagreb June 1 TASS—Moscow thinks that June should become the "major" month in the achievement of Bosnian peace settlement and, possibly, the solution of the whole set of Yugoslav problems, special representative of the Russian president Vitaliy Churkin told an exclusive ITAR-TASS interview here on Tuesday.

"We plan and, I think, will soon work on a possibility of another meeting of foreign ministers. There is common understanding that this meeting should be held at the Russian representation in Geneva," he said.

"State leaders are interested in the initiative of President Boris Yeltsin to hold a special summit on Bosnian settlement. If this summit is not held till mid-June, the Yugoslav problems will be discussed at the Naples meeting of the G7 to be for the first time held as a meeting of the 'political eight' with fully-fledged Russian participation in political discussions. This is an opportunity that cannot be missed," said Churkin.

Rybkin Meets Kuwaitis, Comments on Yeltsin Decrees

LD3005112694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1027 GMT 30 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow May 30 TASS—"President Boris Yeltsin's latest six decrees on economic policy create conditions for the promotion of Russian entrepreneurship and for raising the activity of foreign investors," Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin said here today during his meeting with the parliamentary delegation of Kuwait. "It goes without saying that these documents will help promote business activity in the country," he noted.

Touching on relationships between the Russian Federation and Kuwait, the speaker said that their cooperation "could be more resultative and effective", including in the sphere of parliamentary contacts. "Frankly speaking, both sides have still not used all the available opportunities," he added.

Head of the Kuwait delegation Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Sa'dun, chairman of the Kuwait National Assembly, thanked Russia for its stand of principle vis-a-vis Iraq, which had unleashed an aggression against his country. "We want this stand to remain immutable," the guest noted.

Rybkin assured the Kuwait MPs [members of parliament] that the Russian attitude to the friendly Kuwaiti state was irreversible. "We want all the resolutions of the [UN] Security Council, linked with the Gulf war, to be fully implemented," he stressed. "At the same time," Rybkin stated, "we are perfectly aware that it is impossible to live in conditions when there is no peace and no war. It is necessary to achieve a situation when the two peoples would live in conditions of good-neighbourship

and peace. The Russian MPs, together with their Kuwait colleagues, must do their best in this noble effort."

Delegation Meets State Duma Committee Leaders

LD3105223194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1558 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Moscow, 31 May (ITAR-TASS)—The official visit to Russia by a delegation of the National Assembly (parliament) of the State of Kuwait, led by Assembly Speaker Ahmad 'Abd-al-Aziz al- Sa'dun, continued today. The leader of the Kuwaiti delegation met deputies and representatives of State Duma committees.

The first scheduled meeting, at which bilateral political cooperation was discussed, was held with V.P. Lukin, chairman of the International Affairs Committee. The sides noted mutual interest in establishing close political contacts and spoke in favor of continuing relations at the level of parliamentary groups.

The activity of the Economic Policy Committee was described by its chairman S.Yu. Glazyev, who stressed that particular importance is attached to the development of Russian-Kuwaiti trade links. He announced that the committee is working on a law on foreign trade activity and domestic investments, which will facilitate economic cooperation between Russia and foreign states, including Kuwait.

Members of the Kuwaiti delegation touched on matters of mutually advantageous cooperation in the oil industry, the military sphere, and the sphere of construction and industrial technologies. They called on the Russian parliamentarians to adopt as quickly as possible laws which would make it possible to avoid dual taxation and expressed the wish that Russian companies step up their activity in the Kuwaiti market. The guests noted that stability is an important factor in the economic growth of Russia.

Sergey Glazyev noted that as a result of the economic sanctions against Iraq, Russia, had lost $15 billion. The Kuwaiti parliamentarians responded that they regard it as important to consider the issue of paying compensation for Russia.

The Committee for the Budget, Taxation, Banks, and Finance was represented by its chairman M.M. Zadornov. He said that Russian deputies are extremely interested in the experience of the Kuwaiti parliament which has proved itself in the role of opponent to the government in the budgetary sphere. Also of importance for Russians is Kuwait's experience in concentrating receipts from oil exploitation in the state budget.

The Kuwait delegation held a meeting with the Democratic Party of Russia [DPR] grouping, which was represented by G.Yu. Karelin. He described the present-day Russian political situation, stressing that the DPR is a centrist party and holds to a pragmatic line on the economy. The parliamentarians touched on the issue of the aftermath of the Iraqi aggression, and the speaker of the National Assembly of Kuwait called on those assembled not to support proposals aimed at lifting the economic embargo from Iraq, since it is not observing post-war agreements.

The same topic was the subject of a meeting with the "Russia's Choice" grouping, led by Y.T. Gaydar. He welcomed the guests, saying that he was glad about the nascent formation of interparliamentary links and considered the visit to be an important contribution to the development of Russian-Kuwaiti relations.

Foreign Ministry Denies Arms Sales to Yemen

LD3105135594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1135 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow, 31 May—The allegations being circulated by some parties that Russia is supplying arms and military equipment to Yemen are wholly unsubstantiated, Grigoriy Karasin, director of the Press and Information Department of the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry, told a news conference today. "The Russian Federation is not supplying the Yemenis with special-purpose equipment, either directly or through a third country", he stressed.

The Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that even last year, long before the armed conflict began, Russia decided to halt supplies of arms and military equipment to Yemen following the exacerbation of intra-Yemeni discord. Russia did this on the grounds that supplying weapons to warring parties contradicts its principled approach, which aims to achieve the earliest possible settlement of the conflict by political methods. Grigoriy Karasin pointed out that the Russian Foreign Ministry is taking this line in contacts with both states and is encouraging them to act in the same way.

Russian Envoy Meets Lebanese Foreign Minister

LD2705191594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1754 GMT 27 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dmitriy Zelenin]

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS—Viktor Posuvalyuk, Russian president's special envoy of Middle East affairs and director of the Middle East and North Africa Department in the Russian Foreign Ministry, held a meeting with Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez on Thursday. At the meeting they discussed the situation which has emerged during the regional peace process, in particular, in its Lebanese-Israeli direction.

Posuvalyuk said at a press conference that his Middle East tour is being undertaken on the instructions from President Boris Yeltsin and Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev. He emphasised that Moscow and Washington,

the co-sponsors of the Arab-Israeli negotiations, are constantly coordinating with each other.

When asked to comment upon Islamist leader Mustafa Dirani's capture by an Israeli commando group, Posuvalyuk emphasised that the Russian Foreign Ministry is against any actions which may complicate the situation in the region.

The Russian envoy noted the special importance of the 50th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Russia and Lebanon. In this context, he spoke in favour of the activisation of commercial ties between the two countries, which, according to the diplomat, must be strengthened by an appropriate legal basis.

Russian Envoy, Jordan Premier Discuss Peace Process

LD2805222894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1658 GMT 28 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Yelistratov]

[Text] Cairo May 28 TASS—Russian special envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk met with Jordanian Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali on Saturday to discuss the situation in the region and prospects for resuming Arab-Israeli talks.

The sides focused on Russia's role in the Middle East peace process and agreed that it must step up its peace activity in the region. They also discussed bilateral relations between Russia and Jordan.

Speaking at a news conference after his talks with the prime minister, Posuvalyuk called for working on a parity basis in order to ensure the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the Golan Heights and restore peace between Israel and Syria.

He stressed that this is vital for reaching an overall settlement in the Middle East.

The envoy emphasised the importance of the willingness of the sides involved to achieve progress in the peace process on the basis of the principle "full return of occupied territories in exchange for peace." He believes that the lack of progress or failure of peace talks will play into the hands of forces opposing restoration of stability and security in the region.

Posuvalyuk is in Amman on a working visit as part of his Middle East tour aimed at invigorating the peace process in the Middle East. He has already visited Damascus and is expected to go to Israel on Sunday. He will hold talks with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and visit the city of Jericho for talks with Palestinian officials.

Envoy Views Current Mideast Issues

LD3105181794 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 31 May 94

[Video report from Israel by correspondent V. Flyarkovskiy, including recording of interview with Viktor Posuvalyuk, special envoy of the Russian president—from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian president's official representative in charge of a Near East settlement is now in Israel, holding talks with the country's officials. It has to be noted that the Russian envoy's talks with the regional political leaders are taking place immediately following U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's talks and that the timing is not a coincidence. Warren Christopher endeavored to soften the contradictions between Israel's and Syria's positions, without any tangible success.

[Flyarkovskiy] Viktor Posuvalyuk, the Russian president's special envoy, has ended yet another diplomatic trip round the Near East. I say another, because recently Russian diplomats have begun to appear noticeably more often in the region of the world's most protracted conflict, while Russian mediation has become even more effective.

Viktor Posuvalyuk acknowledged that the talks between Israel and Syria were decisive. He expressed a merely cautious optimism concerning their possible success.

Yitzhaq Rabin, Israel's prime minister, was given a special message from President Yeltsin. However, the Russian diplomat focused particular attention on visiting the new autonomous Palestinian area.

[Posuvalyuk] This is the first time in modern history, in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict that Palestinians were given an opportunity to prove for the first time to everyone and, first and foremost, to themselves, that they are capable of managing their own affairs.

[Flyarkovskiy] And your view is that they are coping.

[Posuvalyuk] So far yes, they are.

[Flyarkovskiy] Does Russia plan a more tangible, material participation now in the implementation of the Gaza-Jericho plan?

[Posuvalyuk] We are discussing these issues with the Palestinians.

[Flyarkovskiy] The point at issue is to give assistance to the Palestinian side now, first and foremost, is that not so?

[Posuvalyuk] Naturally. [video shows Posuvalyuk shaking hands with Rabin]

Adamishin: India Remains 'Strategic Partner'

LD2705181394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1354 GMT 27 May 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: by correspondents Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy, and others]

[Text] The first deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, who visited India as well, reported that at the request of the Indian party the visit of the Indian Prime Minister Naramsimha Rao earlier scheduled for June 14-15 had been postponed for late June - early July.

Interfax interlocutor found it difficult to say what documents would be signed during Rao's visit to Moscow. "We are preparing both political documents and serious agreements on bilateral cooperation. For example, we have a protocol on space cooperation, there are interesting initiatives in the field of military-technical cooperation which, in particular, provide for a joint servicing of the MIG aircraft not only in India but, possibly, in other countries as well. Now it is still now clear what we shall manage to achieve," he noted.

Adamishin underlined that "filling up the Russian-Indian cooperation with a real contents, which is based on pragmatism and takes into consideration common positions of the parties (they always dominate) and discrepancies (they also exist, say, on the issue of nuclear non-proliferation)" is the main aim of Rao's visit to Moscow.

In Adamishin's words, "the relations within the triangle Pakistan-India-Russia are rather interesting." "India is our strategic partner. This was our strategic choice during the period of confrontation which preserves its significance in the period of cooperation as well. Earlier we could say against whom we are. Now we are on friendly terms. This change opens new opportunities for the Russian-Indian cooperation," he said.

Adamishin specially stressed that "having such a reliable partner as India in the Southern Asia and in the global scale, Russia should not loose opportunities which improving of its relations with Pakistan grants."

When asked about Russia's position with respect to the dispute between India and Pakistan on Kashmir, Adamishin answered: "We believe that India and Pakistan should solve this problem on a bilateral basis. If they are interested in Russia's mediation let them address us with a joint request. In other words, we support a bilateral method to solve any problems and do not refuse to render our assistance."

Adamishin reported that when he was in Islamabad, the Pakistanis said that it would be easier for them to reach an agreement with the Indians under the Russian mediation. "It's natural that I said about this to the Indians but there was no reaction. However, the Indians declared that they approve our dialogue with Pakistan, at least they do not show any jealousy with respect to it," he said.

In Adamishin's words, "under the new situation when a more serious confrontation and such crises as, say, the Middle Eastern one, do not block it, the Kashmir conflict acquires a sharper coloring." "Usually somebody else wins thanks to the protracted confrontation between two parties. It is necessary that both Pakistan and India understand this," he underlined.

India to Receive Military Spares From Russia, Ukraine

LD0106101594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0916 GMT 1 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Kotov]

[Text] New Delhi June 1 TASS—The Indian armed forces will receive a large consignment of much needed spare parts for its military equipment within the next three months, Indian Minister of State for Defence M. Mallikarjun said here at a conference of the Indian naval officers.

Supplies will be realized in accordance with contracts signed during the visits last month by the Indian military delegation to Russia and Ukraine. The minister emphasised that shortages of spare parts creates serious problems in maintaining high level combat readiness of all kinds of armed forces of India. They are crucial for the air force, which is equipped with "MiG-29" fighters, and tank troops, mainly armed with "T-72" tanks.

At the same time, Mallikarjun recalled that the spare part problem for the armed forces might be eventually resolved only by increasing their production in Indian defence enterprises. The Indian Government has decided to earmark 230 billion rupees for its requirements this year. A considerable part of this money will be used to produce military equipment and spare parts for it at state enterprises of the country.

Delivery Dates Not Set

LD3105121694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0650 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Kuznetsov]

[Text] Delhi, 31 May—Russia will soon be delivering the first batch of MiG-29M fighter-bombers to the Indian Air Force, under a contract providing for the sale to India of 30 of these aircraft, in addition to six MiG-29ChB combat training aircraft worth a total of 25 billion rupees (about $780,000,000). Informed high-ranking Indian sources announced this today, saying that the MiGs would start arriving this summer and would substantially enhance the combat capability of the Indian Air Force, because "they can effectively intercept and inflict strikes on ground targets deep within enemy territory."

Sergey Anishchenko, Delhi representative of the Russian Arms State Company [Rosvooruzheniye], confirmed to the ITAR-TASS correspondent that Russia has indeed

sent an offer to the Indian side on supplying the MiGs, 10 of them for state credit and 20 for commercial credit. Moscow has had no official response yet, however, and Sergey Anishchenko therefore described the delivery dates as "too optimistic." Sergey Anishchenko nonetheless voiced the hope that there might be some reaction in the next few days, given Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's official visit to Russia scheduled for the end of June.

Russo-Indian military cooperation has clearly been moving into higher gear over recent months, after several years of decline. In mid-May the Indian Defense Ministry announced that in fierce competition with British, French, and Israeli companies the Mikoyan MiG aviation research and production complex had won a tender to reequip more than 100 MiG-21 BIS aircraft which make up the backbone of the Indian air force. Viktor Samoylov, general director of Rosvooruzheniye, recently signed a series of agreements here relating to building missile patrol boats and frigates at the Goa and Bombay shipyards.

Shumeyko Calls for Broader Ties With Latin America

LD2905161594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1535 GMT 29 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Viktor Dmitriyev and Vadim Chistov]

[Text] Sao Paulo May 29 TASS—Russian Federation Council Chairman Vladimir Shumeyko has called for broader cooperation with Latin American countries in various spheres.

Addressing the Latin American parliament on Saturday, Shumeyko who leads a group of Russian parliamentarians on a Latin American tour, said that "Latin American countries deserve our efforts to promptly develop effective cooperation with them in the spheres of interparliamentary activity, economics, culture, science and education."

Shumeyko informed Latin American parliamentarians about the activity of the Russian Federal Assembly and its upper house, the Federation Council, stressing that the experience of Latin American lawmakers is worth studying and using in Russia.

He said that the Latin American parliament and the CIS Inter- Parliamentary Assembly that he heads have much in common, adding that both organisations have a large and yet untapped potential. "The closer we are to each other, the more we help each other, the stronger and richer our countries will be," he said.

From Sao Paulo the Russian delegation left for Rio de Janeiro.

Delegation Arrives in Venezuela

LD3105093194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0817 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Viktor Dmitriyev]

[Text] Caracas May 31 TASS—Venezuela is known as "South- American Kuwait", it is a leading oil power in the Western Hemisphere.

A delegation of Russian lawmakers arrived here on Monday [30 May]. Vladimir Shumeyko, chairman of the Federation Council, is at the head of the delegation.

The delegation is making a tour of several Latin-American countries. It has already visited Chili, Argentina and Brazil.

When answering to journalists' questions at the airport, Shumeyko emphasized the necessity "to go ahead with developing Russo- Venezuelian relations as fast as we can".

The programme for the visit includes a meeting between Shumeyko and President Rafael Caldera Rodriguez of Venezuela, during which the former is to hand in a personal message on the part of Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The delegation is also to meet with leaders of Venezuelian parliament, Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Burelli.

Shumeyko is to address a plenary session of the council of the National Congress of Venezuela.

The Russian lawmakers will also meet with Caracas Mayor Asdrubal Agiar.

Soskovets, Cuban Ambassador Discuss Economic Relations

LD2705170594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1439 GMT 27 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS string correspondent Yuriy Mikhailov]

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS—Russian First Vice-Premier Oleg Soskovets received Cuban Ambassador to Russia Rogelio Montenegro today. During the meeting, they discussed Russian-Cuban trade and economic relations, in particular, the implementation of the agreement on deliveries of oil and equipment for a Cuban power generating plant in exchange for sugar exports to Russia.

Both sides noted that, the schedule of deliveries is being observed, and the first part of the joint contract will be implemented in June. The one hundred thousand tonne Cuban sugar consignment will be delivered to Russian ports at the end of May, the Cuban ambassador assured Soskovets. In turn, a fleet of Russian tankers will similarly transport one million tonnes of the Russian oil to Cuba strictly on schedule.

The Cuban ambassador proposed to adopt a joint decision and discuss the supply schedule in the contract's second part, and to prepare the 1995 trade and economic agreement for signing in August- September, 1994.

On behalf of the Cuban leadership, Rogelio Montenegro invited Oleg Soskovets to pay an official visit to Cuba this summer. Oleg Soskovets gratefully accepted the invitation.

Havana Radio Reports Meeting

PA2905152194 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1300 GMT 28 May 94

[From the "Morning Information Review" newscast]

[Text] Oleg Soskovets, first deputy chairman of the Russian Government, received in Moscow Cuban Ambassador Rogelio Montenegro, with whom he discussed aspects of economic commercial relations, including the fulfillment of the agreement on supplying fuel to the island and equipment for power plants in exchange for sugar.

Both parties noted that scheduled fuel deliveries are proceeding normally. The first part of the contract will conclude this coming June.

Cuban Consul on Trade Cooperation Issues

LD3105221094 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] A news conference took place on Tuesday 31 May in the Consulate General of the Republic of Cuba in St. Petersburg. A reportage by our correspondent Vladimir Izotov has the details.

[Izotov] (Felix Leon Carabello), consul general of the Republic of Cuba in St. Petersburg, did not conceal the fact that the main aim of the news conference was to attract the attention of Russian and, in the first place, St. Petersburg businessmen toward cooperation with his country.

In the early 1980's trade turnover between Cuba and the Soviet Union was some 7 to 8 billion rubles [R] per annum, Mr. (Caraballo) recalled, in terms of the ruble exchange rate at that time. Now it would be excellent if the target of R1.5 to 2 billion could be achieved, he added.

After the break-up of the Soviet Union and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, considerable changes took place in Cuba, the consul general said. Circulation of foreign currency has been legalized in the country. Joint enterprises, in the first place in the sphere of tourism, have undergone development.

The most hurtful thing, Mr. (Caraballo) added, is that the place of the Soviet Union in the development of such sectors of the Cuban economy as the nickel and oil refining industries has been taken not by Russia but by Canada, Sweden, and other western countries.

In reply to a question by the Radio Rossii correspondent about trade cooperation with our country, Cuba's consul general remarked that not very long ago an agreement was signed on the delivery of 1 billion tonnes of Cuba sugar to Russia in exchange for 2.5 billion tonnes of Russian oil. The government of St. Petersburg and Leningrad oblast is showing an interest in developing partner relations with Cuba, Mr. (Caraballo) remarked. The joint (Petrokub) firm is already in operation—it is engaged in exporting Cuban tobacco to St. Petersburg. A joint enterprise for the delivery of Cuban medicines to Russia's northwestern region will start functioning soon.

Zaveryukha Sees Prospects for Russian-Swedish Cooperation

LD0106104294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0917 GMT 1 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov]

[Text] Stockholm June 6 TASS—"Good prospects are opening up for the development and deepening of traditional Russo-Swedish relations in agriculture. We are interested in the conclusion of a Russo-Swedish agreement on agricultural cooperation," Russian Vice- Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha told ITAR-TASS, summing up the results of a Russian delegation's visit to Sweden at the invitation of the Swedish Government.

"Longstanding and stable relations exist between the two countries in the field of seed-farming, in joint ventures with the "Tetra-Laval" concern to produce machines for the food industry, and in several other domains. The current reforms in the Russian countryside open up new opportunities for promoting Russo-Swedish interaction. We want to attract Swedish investments to Russian agriculture, to the creation of farm banks and model farms, which could serve as training centres for private farming in Russia.

"From this point of view, the delegation's visit to Sweden, which included talks with Agriculture Minister Carl Erich Ulsson and visits to Swedish farms and farm products processing enterprises, were most useful and instructive. We have acquainted ourselves with a really highly efficient agriculture, based on private land ownership and personal incentives. At the same time, we saw that in addition to these important factors, contributing to effective farming, the agricultural producers needed state backing, rendered through subsidies, which are typical for Sweden. We are now setting up a wholesale market in Russia, which presupposes direct contacts between producers and consumers. This is typical for the West, including the Scandinavian countries. I believe these are the main ways to develop Russian agriculture, too" Zaveryukha stressed.

Today, the Russian delegation is to fly to Denmark, where it will continue to study Scandinavian agriculture.

State Duma Chairman Receives Greek Foreign Minister

LD3105215194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1503 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow, 31 May—"For Russia the Balkans are not just a dot on the map, but it has a place in our hearts", Ivan Rybkin, the chairman of the State Duma, stated during today's meeting with Karolos Papoulias, the foreign minister of the Greek republic. "We want very much", the speaker of the lower chamber of the Russian parliament noted also, "that there should be no hot spots in Europe and even more so that the flame of war should not burn in the fraternal Yugoslavia".

Karolos Papoulias assured Ivan Rybkin that on international issues the positions of Russia and Greece are similar or fully coincide and noted that his side is interested in "Russia again taking a worthy place in the Balkans, which it used to occupy earlier and which it is worthy of by right". Incidentally, he admitted that "the European Union countries have committed mistakes with regard to Yugoslavia and Greece bears responsibility for it as well". At the same time Karolos Papoulias stressed that "despite the fact that no-one likes this, Greece will follow the same path as Russia in the matter of a peaceful settlement in the Balkans".

The sides also discussed issues of interparliamentary cooperation between the two countries and spoke about the need to expand them.

Paper Weighs Results of Chernomyrdin PRC Visit

PM3105081394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 May 94 p 3

[Vladimir Skosyrev report: "Viktor Chernomyrdin, Like Bill Clinton, Understands That Money Is More Important Than Human Rights. Russian Premier's Visit to Beijing Crowned With Series of Agreements"]

[Text] Beijing— Viktor Chernomyrdin's visit to Beijing has been crowned with the signing of a series of agreements which are designed to ease the development of trade and economic cooperation as well as contacts between the two countries' citizens.

The accords envisage that citizens be exempt from dual taxation, prescribe a procedure for border transit and ties between border services, and determine measures for the protection of the environment, the exploitation of the resources of rivers on the border, and the development of maritime shipping. A separate document regulates the exchange of information and experience in agriculture.

In the opinion of members of the Russian delegation, these agreements could help our state enterprises and private business become established in the gigantic Chinese market. Indeed, this is the main point of our premier's visit to the PRC.

Meeting with representatives of Chinese business circles, he tried to show that there is no reason to be afraid of investing money in Russia and concluding large-scale contracts with it. Whether or not he managed to convince his audience, people used to the unpredictability of the political and economic situation in our country, is unclear. In any event, the legal basis for cooperation was determined by the signing of the new documents.

Admittedly, the competition for the Chinese market is becoming increasingly intense. That is the reason for the U.S. President's sensational decision to abandon the linkage between the observance of human rights and terms of trade with China.

For Russia, of course, which has a border with China, relations with it are even more important than for the United States. It is no wonder that in conversation with the Chinese, as sources report, the head of our government avoided subjects which they find sensitive, such as the violation of human rights. This decision made it possible to promote Russian economic interests, at least in those areas where fierce competition is not in evidence yet—in the supply of the latest types of military hardware. The United States and other Western countries are still observing the embargo in this field imposed on China after the suppression of the demonstrations in Tiananmen Square.

According to some information, particularly intensive talks were held on new supplies of Russian fighters and the transfer of aircraft construction technology.

Moscow Radio Commentary

OW2805061394 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1000 GMT 27 May 94

[Mulatov commentary; from the "Half an Hour With Wang Xiao" program]

[Text] A delegation of the Russian Federation Government headed by Prime Minister Chernomyrdin is continuing its official visit to China. Chinese, Russian, and international mass media are giving wide publicity to the visit and the Russian-Chinese talks on expanding cooperation in economic and other fields.

Our station commentator Mulatov comments: The focus of the ongoing Russian-Chinese talks in Beijing is to expand and improve economic cooperation and trade between these two neighbors, and implement modernization. A slew of major agreements in this regard has been signed. A dispatch from Beijing by Japan's KYODO news agency takes note of the broad representational nature of the delegation headed by Russian Prime Minister Chernomyrdin, pointing out that many members of the delegation are leaders of government

ministries and competent departments, and representatives of business circles. As everybody knows, Russian-Chinese trade has grown rapidly in recent years. The two sides, however, are proceeding from this understanding: that is, bilateral cooperative ties and the potential for cooperation are far from being fully utilized. The fact that Russia and China are neighbors and their economies are mutually complementary will enable them to greatly expand all-round cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefits. Pointing out the growing ties in military technology between Russia and China, some mass media in the West have not ruled out the possibility of an accord on Russian-Chinese military cooperation. However, prior to the Russian Government's departure for China, (Beleiyi), a ranking official of the Russian Foreign Ministry refuted such predictions. He told an ITAR-TASS reporter that no military agreement whatsoever would be signed.

The ongoing Russian-Chinese talks in Beijing are aimed at, first of all, upgrading mutually beneficial economic cooperation and trade between the two neighbors. Certainly, the two sides will also discuss regional and international issues of mutual interest. We will soon find out the specifics of bilateral agreements reached between the two sides. These agreements are designed to create more favorable conditions for mutually beneficial trade, economic, and scientific and technological exchanges between the two nations. Russian-Chinese dialogue will resume at the highest level this fall when PRC President Jiang Zemin makes an official visit to Russia. All in all, for China, 1994 could be described as the year of Russia; and for Russia, the year of China.

Commentary Views China's Rural Instability

OW2805162694 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1000 GMT 24 May 94

[Commentary by Mulatov from the "Half an Hour With Wang Xiao" program]

[Text] Ren Jianxin, president of China's Supreme People's Court, said last Saturday [21 May] at a meeting of the Central Committee for Comprehensive Management of Public Security—which he heads—that social tensions have increased in China's rural areas as a result of price rises, inflation, and increasing market competition. The masses are very dissatisfied. Some rural regions even experienced serious difficulties in maintaining public order. The meeting discussed the growing problem of maintaining public order in China's rural areas.

Ren Jianxin, a senior cadre of China, emphasized that the impact that rural areas' public security problems will have on the situation nationwide must never be underestimated. A system of rural cadres assuming personal responsibility for maintaining public order is being formulated in accordance with his proposal.

Of late, China's leaders are deeply worried about the situation in rural areas. For this reason, the State Council promulgated a poverty alleviation plan not long ago. According to official statistics, 80 million peasants in China are living below the poverty line. Their annual income is under U.S.$100. In other words, they do not have enough to eat and wear. The goal of the government plan is to eliminate, by and large, poverty in China by the year 2000. This and the new measures the authorities have taken to improve public order in rural areas are two sides of a policy that is designed to prevent massive peasant unrest, which could lead to social and political instability and chaos. Foreign wire services such as AFP and REUTERS noted in their comments that local party committees and administrative organs in some rural areas of China have become paralyzed or semi-paralyzed. This is exactly the situation foreign observers love to cite in interpreting why the Chinese central authorities are implementing the system of rural cadres assuming responsibility for maintaining public order in their respective localities.

Reform, development, and stability—these are the main goals of the domestic policy offensive of the Chinese leadership. The task facing Chinese leadership is to contain, dilute, and eventually eliminate the destabilizing factors in rural areas. It is particular true of poverty-stricken areas where increases in peasant income are lagging behind the inflation rate, and of areas with wide gaps between rich and poor, where rich farmers sharply contrast with poor ones. This is the kind of situation that could lead to deadly consequences. Taking note of this danger in good time, the Chinese authorities have implemented comprehensive measures to ensure public order and security in the unsteady rural areas.

Former Nuclear Test Site To Be Handed Over to Kazakhstan

LD0106091494 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0630 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] Russia is ready to hand over the nuclear test range near Kurchatov to Kazakhstan as of 1 June. The Kurchatov test range was used for nuclear tests from 1949 until 1991, when the moratorium on nuclear arms tests was introduced.

Kazakhstan proposes to turn Kurchatov into an international center for radiological, engineering, and medical research.

Russia Grants Latvia Most Favored Nation Status

LD3105082194 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0730 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] A note from the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry has been handed to the Latvian Embassy in Moscow. The note says that beginning on 1 June 1994 Russia will extend most favored nation status in trade with Latvia. The note emphasized that this status will become irreversible only after Latvia ratifies bilateral agreements signed on 30 April on the withdrawal of

Russian troops from Latvia and on social provisions for Russian armed forces pensioners residing in Latvia.

Scientists Urge Latvia To Keep Russian Military Antenna

LD3105091094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2355 GMT 30 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Riga, 31 May (ITAR-TASS)—Latvian Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs visited the Russian strategic installation near Ventspils Monday—the space communication center, or to be more precise, the former space communication center, since the part which received satellite information has already been removed. But there remains a unique parabolic antenna, 32 meters in diameter, which does not exist anywhere else in northern Europe and of which there are only 10 in the whole world. The engineers and constructors who built this complex 22 years ago won state prizes for it.

Scientists in Russia and Latvia want to set up an international radio astronomy center here and signed a protocol of intentions a month ago. They believe specialists from many countries could use the scientific center for a wide range of fundamental and applied research.

It was the scientists who prompted the prime minister to visit the military center, which the Russian army will have left by 1 August. The costs must be weighed first and then a decision made as to whether Latvia has the means to maintain the complex, Valdis Birkavs said. "There are so far no grounds for going ahead," he said, adding that he is quite skeptical about the country having the means.

The Russian Academy of Sciences is offering to pay the main part of the bill in a joint venture. And it has been made clear that the complex cannot serve a military purpose since the special apparatus has been dismantled. But Latvia is not happy with the idea of Russian participation, viewing many of Russia's initiatives as a way of maintaining influence. A number of Russian specialists say the issue is being dragged out deliberately, so that this unique complex will just fall into Latvia's hands when the Russian military unit leaves. Some have expressed the fear that the antenna could be used against Russia's interests.

Representatives of the Russian Defense Ministry have said that if by July Latvia has still not made a decision to use the complex, everything will have to be dismantled. It will not be possible to recreate this enormous rotating dish to the same standard elsewhere, which would mean, regrettably, that no one would have the antenna.

Contraband Raw Materials Seized on Latvia, Estonia Borders

PM3105153694 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 31 May 94 p 4

[Report by unidentified news agency: "Border Barrier Saves Raw Materials"]

[Text] Operation "Barrier"—aimed at putting a stop to smuggling and other illegal activity—was conducted 16 through 20 May on the border with Estonia and Latvia by units from the Northwest Border District in conjunction with Belorussian [Belarusian] border guards. As a result, contraband worth 905 million rubles [R]—including 56 tonnes of steel and 25 tonnes of titanium alloys—was seized in the course of the five days. In total in 1993 the troops of the Northwest Border District seized contraband worth R4.3 billion, and the figure since the start of 1994 is R2 billion. The export of around 2,000 tonnes of nonferrous metals and 600 tonnes of fuels and lubricants has been prevented.

Navy Chief Arrives for Sevastopol Fleet Talks

LD0106101094 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 0800 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] Admiral Feliks Gromov, commnder in chief of the Russian navy, arrived in Sevastopol today. The aim of his visit is to familiarize himself with the situation in the Black Sea Fleet and to work out further decisions on the fleet's future. Accompanying Gromov is a delegation of 20 representatives of the Defense Ministry and directorates amd services of the main staff.

Delegation Arrives

MK0106080094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 1

[INTERFAX report: "Russian Federation Experts Have Arrived in Sevastopol To Continue Preparations for Negotiations"]

[Text] Yesterday a Russian expert delegation participating in negotiations on the Black Sea Fleet, headed by ambassador at large Yuriy Dubinin, arrived in Sevastopol. Delegation members intend to make an inspection trip to Black Sea Fleet and Ukraine Navy bases.

Political Issues

Yeltsin's Chief of Staff Discusses Leadership

PM3105160394 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 27 May 94 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Sergey Filatov, chief of the Russian Federation Presidential Staff, by ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI Chief Editor Valeriy Kucher; date and place not given: "Strength in Government Lies in the Ability to Find Compromise"]

[Text] [Kucher] Sergey Aleksandrovich, a broad exchange of opinions about cadre reshuffles in the higher echelons of power, which is entirely permissible in an open, civil society, is sometimes turned into a secret source of information and even a lever of influence on those processes. At various intervals, but on the basis of one pattern, we find out about the possible official prospects of certain individuals. The authorities sometimes call these reports rumors or provocations, or use the more refined word "leaks." Perhaps none of the current high-ranking officials is bypassed, but there is no point in talking about politicians who have retired. Are leaks of information a necessary instrument for presidential power? What is your attitude to this?

[Filatov] You have broached an important question. Because the spread of rumors about cadre changes in the top sphere of power is now virtually being turned into a system. I would even say that leaks of information have become an instrument of political power. I would stress: a weapon in political infighting, but by no means an attribute of presidential power.

The desire of any government to know how society will react to proposed actions by the authorities is understandable and explicable. A lot of civilized methods for gathering information at the stage of the formation of a plan or any steps exist for this purpose. And we know of examples where certain decisions were modified as a result of such a social verification, bided their time, or else simply never appeared. This is quite normal. It is another matter when nothing has happened and yet there is a "leak" of information.... I think that this method has unfortunately started being used extensively recently, indeed with purely opportunistic aims.

[Kucher] Sometimes this bears fruit....

[Filatov] In that case I would talk about something else, something more important. Any phenomenon must be tested, to see whether it is to society's benefit or to its detriment. Any action by the authorities intensifies people's faith in them or else, conversely, destroys trust in them. I generally believe that you should be extremely careful in dealing with preliminary information. As for using it to selfish political ends, that is all the more immoral. Because when a person is schooled in this system of "idle" intercourse, in this lifeless pattern of work with him, then the authorities increasingly lose moral substance in his eyes. And that is terrible, because we could obtain a situation whereby there will be no faith in official documents. People will inclined to identify truth with rumor and not accept what is really happening. That is why I have a very negative attitude to immoral methods of checking people's reactions.

But we sometimes call routine procedures by the wrong name. For instance, a document which is intended for official use has to be circulated. An ordinary aspect of work is thus sometimes set up as an enforced leak of information. Immunity is willy-nilly built up in respect of the actual term "leak." No wonder that the sense of rejection is weakened in a real "leak" which plays the role of political intrigue.

There is also another side to the question. Those about whom the rumors are being spread must also be protected. This is not just a question of the fact that people are very vulnerable and handle rumors about themselves very badly. Besides, I see the authorities' ability to protect a person against lies as a display of their moral character. Although, of course, it is equally dangerous for society to create an imaginary aura of infallibility and sanctity around officials.

[Kucher] Does it not seem to you that similar outlines can been seen in almost all subjects concerning recent cadre policy? It works out that the change of cadres comes first, and then a belated and vague explanation of the true reasons for it. So only one conclusion tends to suggest itself willy-nilly: It means that some kind of bureaucratic games are going on here, which have nothing to do with state interests. And since that is the case, it looks as though the authorities are losing touch with the people....

[Filatov] The first thing that I would like to stress is that cadre policy, generally speaking, is only just beginning to take shape. The president has created a Cadre Policy Council. It includes representatives of all the structures which have a direct bearing on this matter. There are three commissions, two of which are already working. One of them is headed by Justice Minister Yu.Kh. Kalmykov. This commission puts forward candidacies for judges, whom the president either appoints himself or presents to the Federation Council. The second commission examines the possible award of military ranks and posts. It is led by presidential aide Yu. Baturin. There is also a third commission, which has not started working yet: Its duties include selecting candidates for top official posts in various Russian missions abroad—excluding ambassadors, since they are appointed by the president as a result of consultations with the Federal Assembly.

In this way, the first step has been taken toward moving the problem of appointing cadres in the top echelon of power out of the direct influence of bureaucratic structures. And I think that, if the process of deregulating cadre appointments and reshuffles proceeds along a normal path, then suspicions will be removed.

I will say frankly that a colossal shortage of cadres is to be perceived in the country, particularly for the leading components of the administration. After all, you can see for yourselves that the same people are revolving in the orbit of power all the time. It looks as though we cannot manage without any serious or profound training of cadres capable of operating in the new market conditions. This problem is being widely discussed in the Kremlin right now. If we have a good reserve and a normal system for training cadres, particularly for the top leadership personnel, then, no doubt, the basis for the dramatic situations which we frequently come up against will disappear.

[Kucher] How do you explain the rather frequent change of characters in the official political arena? A shortage of cadres?

[Filatov] Not only that. Society's socioeconomic morale and the results of internecine struggle among the political forces also affect the frequency of cadre changes. That is precisely what makes the cadre structure in the state unstable. Actually, I believe that this is a temporary phenomenon in the current conditions, because it is sometimes possible to reach compromises by means of cadre reshuffles. And a compromise in politics makes it possible to ease tension in society and leads to a stabilization in the situation.

How it is reached is another matter. Or, more precisely, how it is greeted in certain political circles. Not everyone has fully understood and accepted the presidential powers in terms of cadre policy. His opportunities are determined by the Constitution. But some people would like to see this as an excessive strengthening of personal power. The president does have, for example, the right to release or appoint a government member on the premier's submission. But he also has the right to appoint a person by his own decision to a leading post even if he is not a government member. It is particularly pointless to dramatize the situation when the president releases, moves, or dismisses someone from service, sometimes for reasons known only to himself.

Sometimes people lose sight of the fact that, when the people elected the president, they voted not just for the personality of the politician but also the statesman, who has a program which must be implemented. That is why the key posts in the president's entourage must be occupied by people who have the same political orientation as him. If someone in that team is out of step with the chosen aim, makes mistakes, gets confused, or betrays it—this has also happened—then naturally the president parts company with him. It is another matter when a person only finds out about a decision concerning his future from a newspaper or radio report. But here the blame is to be laid at the door of those charged with reporting on adopted decisions before they are announced, and that includes me.

[Kucher] Does President Boris Yeltsin need obedient officials to carry things out or active people with a clearly defined commitment?

[Filatov] The president forms the cadre policy of the Russian state, proceeding on the basis that this is a qualitatively different state. So the top stratum of administrators must be qualitatively different. Only professionals can work in certain sections, and in certain places professionalism must be supplemented by persons with a clear-cut political orientation. Policy is determined by the president, which means that those who help him to do this and are directly in his team, are also political figures.

[Kucher] Are we to hope that there will no longer be a place for favorites in the presidential team?... What principles lie at the heart of the new line in cadre policy?

[Filatov] First of all, professionalism. Second, the capability for long-term hard work, and, naturally, solidarity with the president's line.

[Kucher] So what about independence of thought?

[Filatov] Yes, that too. Until a decision is adopted, you can discuss and analyze. Apart from the Staff apparatus, the president has various formations: the Presidential Council, the Security Council, the Expert Analytical Council, this Council for Cadre Policy, and the recently formed Council for Social Policy. A number of commissions are in operation. The president does not work alone but is surrounded by an intellectual and professional elite. That is where arguments go on, views collide, a concept of reform is elaborated. Believe me, the people there are not all of the same opinion. But it is only the president who adopts a decision, taking all opinions and approaches into account.

[Kucher] Let us take the Sergey Shakhray case. I would like to know how the new principles of cadre policy have operated with respect to him.

[Filatov] I do not want to talk about that subject for ethical reasons.

[Kucher] The qualities of the cadre corps surrounding the president in many respects leave their mark on the mechanism for elaborating presidential decisions. Are there any rules according to which their elaboration proceeds?

[Filatov] The process of preparing a decision does not proceed according to one technological diagram. A plan of action is drawn up. The government proposes something, and something else comes from the State-Legal Administration as well as the president's assistants and the ministries and departments. The concept of future documents must be discussed by the interested parties, and sometimes proceeds directly from Boris Nikolayevich. He is very active both at the moment when the document comes into being and in the period when it is to be signed.

[Kucher] The opinion exists in society that the president's reaction to topical events in the country is sometimes belated and sometimes not commensurate with their significance....

[Filatov] If there is such an opinion, than we must listen to it. However, I believe that the president's reaction does correspond to the degree of the event's importance. In the final analysis it is he who decides how to do this—in writing or orally—and when to react, who should speak—the press secretary, the foreign minister, the president himself, or a particular state employee. So that strictly speaking from the viewpoint of reacting to events which are generally significant to the country I believe that everything is in order here. Maybe the content of such information is not always detailed, but that is another matter.

[Kucher] There is no presidential party in the country at the moment, and at the same time we know of unsuccessful attempts to create one. I remember the president's recent statement at the democratic forum, to the effect that if such a party were to be created, he would be the first to join it... What is the state of affairs in this sphere at the moment?

[Filatov] I think that a party should be created. We are living in an excessively dynamic situation, whereby various movements and blocs are simply not managing to develop a normal party structure and party activity, but elections have to be held. Of course we need such a party.... This question is being raised by many imminent politicians and public figures.

[Kucher] What kind of a party will it be?

[Filatov] Most likely it will correspond to the type of state we are building. And reflect the style of its development and its aim. It must be a social democratic party. In any case, this is what determines the president's activity, it seems to me. At least the years of his struggle against the communist ideology draw a picture of a social democratic type of state. That is precisely what is enshrined in the new Constitution—a federative, democratic, rule-of-law, social state.

[Kucher] Can you see a place for yourself in the state party?

[Filatov] I would not refuse to support such a party or be in it.

[Kucher] Sergey Aleksandrovich, I ask everyone I talk to this question, and I would like to know your opinion: What are we building here?

[Filatov] It seems to me that we do not have to attach any kind of ideological adjective to our state. Then everything falls into place. Sometimes people say: There is no common idea in the country, no ideology of reform. That is not true.

We want to our state to be democratic. Have we achieved this? Not at the moment. But we have freely elected the president and the Federal Assembly. Local self-government is being created.

We are fighting for freedom of information and freedom of the press. And you cannot say that there has been no success in this. The world recognizes the fact.

And take our courts. They have already started protecting constitutional human rights, although of course we are still at the beginning of the path and through force of momentum are still doing a lot of things in an administrative way, responding to people's letters and complaints.

We are in favor of laws' taking precedence over the will of officials. Here too there is no end of work to be done. In a normal rule-of-law state several thousand normative acts are in operation, but here, as I see it, we do not even have one thousand yet. At the moment a lot depends on the personality of the administrator, his abilities and talent to predict and solve problems. That is why the slogan "cadres determine everything" exists at the moment.

Are the contours of the future Russian state taking shape? Of course they are. The individual and his rights are of paramount importance in the new Constitution. Can we fully ensure these rights today? Not at the moment. But we are getting increasingly close to being called a civilized state in which the individual is the main figure, protected by all the attributes of a democratic state. People should own property and live peacefully amid wealth. That is how it should be. And will be!

[Kucher] What, in your opinion, is the state obliged to do today for society?

[Filatov] Preserve it, and prevent a reduction in the level of consumption. The figures show the monstrous economic position in which our state finds itself today. Nevertheless, the consumption of food products is a main factor.

Admittedly, we are all demanding various things from the state through force of momentum. We are still proceeding as if on a knife edge, and we have to go down the path worthily, so as not to fall into the abyss. It seems to me that, during this period, all groups should give up persistently trying to obtain various funds and preferential conditions for transient benefits.

[Kucher] They will not agree to that. Or they will pretend to agree.

[Filatov] But then there will be no results. If you aim to keep the fall in production at a level of 25 percent by the end of the year, and inflation at no more than 10 percent, then this can be achieved only by giving up lobbying activities. Accord in society is, after all, not just a subject for discussion by political scientists or journalists. Accord has an economic foundation. Accord requires restrictions, of a financial nature too.

[Kucher] Do you really believe in the idea of accord?

[Filatov] I believe in the idea of accord very strongly. I think that our state will not be able to get out of the crisis situation in which it finds itself without becoming aware of the need for sociopolitical conciliation.

Stressing the importance of the Social Accord Treaty, the president noted that we have not had such a thing in almost 80 years. For eight decades our country lived in a regime of civil war, when part of society overtly or covertly destroyed the rest. No other country, with the possible exception of fascist Germany, has allowed such a scale of destruction of its own citizens as we permitted to happen. Hence the conclusion that we must give up Bolshevik methods of solving civil conflicts once and for all. But what the aggressively minded opposition is now trying to do constitutes Bolshevik tactics; and, whether we like it or not, this will inevitably lead to violence. Yet we have no right to fight. The treaty is the path to peace in Russian society.

[Kucher] That formula is too general....

[Filatov] You see, there are a lot of laws missing in our society, and that is why it is, so to speak, naked and defenseless in the face of confrontation and violence. Until society is saturated with legal norms, accord is needed as a method of settling conflicts. As an intermediate link in peace. It will be difficult for us to get out of the crisis. Critical moments, notably connected with the refusal to support loss-making enterprises, cannot be ruled out. And the problem of unemployment arises here. Of course, you can shout that this is a crime, that the people have been reduced to penury. Certain speculative politicians who are pursuing power may play on this. But the problems nevertheless need to be solved, and they need to be solved economically, partly through constructive dialogue, that is, on the basis of the peaceful manifestation of the professional opinion of the majority. That is the substance of the accord idea.

Expert Council Discusses Demographic Scheme

LD3005163494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1520 GMT 30 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lilya Kuznetsova]

[Text] Moscow May 30 TASS—A general demographic scheme for Russia's territories, determining the main tendencies for the development of the country's urban and rural communities and separate regions, stipulating versions for accommodating refugees, displaced persons, families of servicemen, migrants from the north, and outlining ways to officially regulate those processes in conditions of a market economy, was discussed and approved today by an expert council under the Russian president.

As noted by Aleksandr Krivov, vice-chairman of the Russian State Building Committee, the key task, indicated in the document, is to draw up a concept and a long-term policy for settling people on Russia's vast territories and to elaborate concrete proposals for this purpose.

The pivotal idea of the general scheme is to elaborate a basic settlement pattern and to site and form urban conglomerations, constituting the key form of contemporary and future distribution of the Russian population. They are to be provided with a powerful infrastructure, ensuring modern transport and communication services, information facilities, and the ecological safety of a given district.

The mid-Russian, south Siberia and Pacific regions are indicated as the priority settlement areas. Leningrad, Pskov, Novgorod, Tver, Yaroslavl, Kostroma and Vologda regions, as well as the middle belt of Russia and the Urals, Siberia, and the Far East are earmarked for the settlement of refugees from the republics of the former Soviet Union, for the families of servicemen and resettlers from the north, the number of which is expected to reach 5.5-8 million people by the year 2000.

A package of federal programmes is to be drawn up on the basis of this document, envisaging the development of small and medium-size towns, revival of the Russian countryside, revival and development of the mid-Russian region, and the accommodation of migrants. The expert council moved to "determine the status of the general scheme as a regularly amended prognosis-type document", to approve the draft's concept, to set up an inter-departmental commission for shape Russia's town-building policy and to draw up a draft resolution of the Russian Government "On the main directions of the state town-building and settlement policy in the Russian Federation".

Official Belittles Opposition 'Propaganda Stunt'

LD3105163894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1335 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Radical opposition leaders are pulling a propaganda stunt when they promise an early change of government, a senior official in President Boris Yeltsin's headquarters told Interfax Tuesday.

He did not think that former vice-president Aleksandr Rutskoy's signature collection campaign for early presidential elections would be a success. The official believed that even if Rutskoy's supporters collect the one million signatures required to hold a referendum on the issue, neither the State Duma nor the Constitutional Court would have a constitutional case to call a referendum.

Speaking on the recent meeting of the Accord in the Name of Russia council he said that friction between Rutskoy and Communist leader Gennadiy Zyuganov, members of the council, was to be expected.

Still, he thought it possible that even though Zyuganov was a much more intelligent statement than Rutskoy, he might ally with the latter temporarily in order to change the government.

The official said it was strange that former foreign trade minister Sergey Glazyev, a Democratic party deputy in the Duma, had joined a grouping whose goal was to kindle the fires of discontent rather than looking for a constructive alternative to what the government was doing.

Pan-National Union Not To Support Rutskoy in Elections

LD3105130894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1151 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The leader of the Russian Pan-National Union, State Duma deputy Sergey Baburin, has said that his movement has no intention of supporting Russia's former vice-president, Aleksandr Rutskoy, in the forthcoming presidential elections.

Addressing the residents of Novosibirsk on Tuesday Baburin said: "Rutskoy is the leader of Russia's nationalist movement only in the pages of the press." According to him, in the wake of last October's events Rutskoy displayed his unsuitability as a political leader and strategist.

Baburin came to Novosibirsk to inaugurate a branch of his movement on Monday. According to him, this is the 50th affiliation to the Russian Pan-National Union. "The establishment of a mass of regional branches across Russia is linked first of all with our preparations for the upcoming presidential elections," he stressed.

During the election campaign his movement, Baburin added, will be ready to cooperate with all patriotic-minded organizations, except the Liberal Democratic Party. With reference to the possible candidacy to be backed by the Union and by other nationalist organizations he said that it has not yet been determined.

In comments on developments in and around the Crimea Baburin told Interfax that Russia must give the Crimea military aid by sending troops there. According to him, the deployment of Russian troops alone will induce Ukraine to "lower its ambitions toward the people of the Crimea and induce the Ukrainian government to enter into negotiations on the situation on the peninsula."

Media Issues

Editor Effects Mass Purge of Journalists

PM0106081394 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 2

[Yevgeniy Kuzin report: "Two-Thirds of ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Journalists Left Jobless"]

[Text] As of today they have been dismissed in connection with the editorial office reorganization launched by Editor Natalya Polezhayeva with the support of the founder—the Russian Government.

It all started with the October events, after which ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, the organ of the mutinous Supreme Soviet, was left without an owner. While the collective was thinking about the sponsorship issue and gathering the necessary documents together, the government got busy and ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA got a new owner. He who pays the piper calls the tune.

The first and quite obvious change (to prevent the old comrade Ruslan Imranovich from remaining in charge) was the appearance of a new editor—Natalya Polezhayeva, whose tough management style was not welcomed by many staffers.

The new ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Editorial Office Charter, adopted in December at a general meeting of the collective, laid down that the newspaper would be a state enterprise but would subsequently be floated. But two months later the government gave the "go-ahead" to a version of the document absolutely unknown to ordinary staffers, under which the editorial office won the status of a corporate body. Under the Law on the Mass Media such a charter can only be adopted by a journalists' collective by a simple majority. But the journalists learned of the charter after it had already been ratified.

In an interview with KOMMERSANT, Pavel Gurin, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA general director, blamed the government for this violation. But that explanation is dubious. Since I am somewhat familiar with the way in which documents are submitted to Viktor Stepanovich for signing, it seems to me that nobody in the government saw this charter. Moreover, the draft new structure ratified by government apparatus leader Kvasov was signed by Natalya Ivanovna and Pavel Fedorovich.

Polezhayeva began to carry out the reorganization on the basis of the ratified charter. As a result, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA should have three departments as of today—a social policy department, a culture department, and a state and law department. This is why there have been so many dismissals. Moreover, legally independent agencies of the most diverse kind are starting to work under the editorial office—PROTOCOL for official information, DERZHAVA for regional information, BIZNES V ROSSII for economic information, and another for security; there will be schooling for young journalists, and so forth. Most probably some of those dismissed will be taken on by the agencies and find the reorganization painless. But the fact that the leaders of these new formations were carefully selected by Polezhayeva shows that only staffers who are particularly loyal to the Polezhayeva "regime" will be taken on.

Natalya Ivanovna herself refused to comment on the situation in her own publication. But things may be made clearer by the Savelovskiy courts, where an illegal dismissal suit has been filed against the ROSSIYSKAYA

GAZETA administration by Marina Cherednichenko, Polezhayeva's former deputy. On the basis of the results of the first hearing it is as yet hard to be certain who will win.

Economic Issues

Yavlinskiy Doubts 'Realism' of Economic Edicts

MK3105123094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 May 94 p 2

[INTERFAX report under the "In Brief" rubric]

[Text] Moscow—Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, leader of the "Yabloko" faction in the State Duma, doubts that Boris Yeltsin's recent economic edicts are going to "work." He has pointed out that on the whole, the direction of movement on the road of economic reform chosen by this package of documents is correct, but the "very execution of the edicts leaves much to be desired." "Politically, this is an attempt by the president to seize the initiative in the absence of such in the government. However, the content of the edicts raises big doubts as to the realism of the measures implied by them," G. Yavlinskiy stressed.

Export Quotas Edict Said Subject to Interpretation

MK3105110094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 May 94 p 2

[Ivan Zasurskiy report from the "Trade" column: "The Importance of the Pipeline and Special Exporter Status Will Grow. A Government Source Comments on a Presidential Edict Abolishing Export Quotas and Licensing"]

[Text] After the edict canceling export quotas and licensing has been adopted, the role of special exporters will increase substantially, a government source who asked not to be identified said in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. Because even now the oil pipeline is operating at full capacity, the abolition of oil quotas and licenses without abolishing the special exporter status effectively gives the advantage of "getting into the pipe" to those companies which have benefited from their status in the past. However, considering that the oil pipe does not stretch like rubber, it can be assumed that if special exporters were also abolished, bribes and connections would be used, which would lead to a civil war over the oil pipelines.

Experts are rather critical of the edict on cancellation of duties and quotas. Thus, some politicians believe that the edict is nonviable. Others (including NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's source) point to the edict's equivocal wording which will lend itself to different interpretations by specialists.

In fact the presidential edict annulled Appendix 1 to last year's government resolution "On Liberalizing Foreign Economic Activity" which laid down procedures for quantity regulation and licensing. Commenting at NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's request on the new trade scheme, the source noted that it is clear already: Military equipment, dual-purpose goods, gold, and precious stones will be subject to licensing and quantity regulation. Furthermore, under the presidential edict, international delivery quotas, established from outside, will remain on aluminum and textiles.

"Much will depend on the interpretation which the government puts on the edict in its resolutions," the source said. "At present it is difficult to say definitely what the edict's implications will be or how they will impact on the business climate in Russia and foreign investments."

Earlier, Deputy Foreign Economic Relations Minister Andrey Dogayev said that the state will regulate trade through six to seven domestically produced goods, including deliveries within the framework of "external quotas" under international agreements.

Incidentally, a joint statement by the government and the Central Bank provides for the cabinet's obligation to lift restrictions on all commodities with the exception of crude oil, diesel fuel, electricity, nickel, aluminum, and copper, restrictions on which, according to the statement, will be lifted at the end of 1994.

Chernomyrdin Breaches Law Over Airbus Imports

LD3005213794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1736 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] When he signed a government ordinance making A-310 aircraft and their parts exempt from customs duties, Viktor Chernomyrdin was in breach of the Russian law because the government has no right to make such decisions, Sergey Glazyev, chairman of the State Duma Economic Policy Committee, told INTERFAX Monday.

A-310-300 planes are imported into Russia by Aeroflot under a leasing agreement with a consortium of European banks. Four air buses of this kind are now in operation in Russia. A fifth crashed near Mezhdurechensk, a town in the Kemerovo Region, killing 75 passengers and crew.

Glazyev believed that the losses incurred in operating the A-310's was the sole reason why Aeroflot was given tax relief.

Without this relief, the new import duties to be imposed as of July 1 on aircraft and their parts would kill the idea of importing A-310's, Glazyev believed.

Moscow Mayor Rejects Chubays-Style Privatization

LD3105170894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1613 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Galinskiy]

[Text] Moscow May 31 TASS—"There will be no privatization a la Chubays in Moscow," Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov told ITAR-TASS here today. "It is not the matter of conflict between the chairman of the State Committee for Property and me, but essential differences in the vitally important issue of the implementation of the state privatization program".

Commenting on the recent appeal of Anatoliy Chubays to the Russian procurator general's office in connection with the Moscow mayor's privatization resolutions, Luzhkov said "I accept this proposal of Mr Chubays with readiness, but I want him to visit the procurator general's office together with me. I am convinced that it is not my privatization resolutions that run counter to the law but resolutions of the State Property Committee".

In the opinion of Luzhkov, "the state institution has usurped the right to solve all problems in privatization and sometimes makes serious mistakes" .

"We think that property should be sold and not squandered or given away dirt cheap to anyone. That is why, I believe that voucher privatization is a swindle to be investigated by the procurator general due to the inadmissibility to squander state property," he stressed.

Asked about major drawbacks in privatization, Luzhkov said "I am sure that privatization a la Chubays has brought almost no positive results. It brought us no additional property. It only ruins the state. Russia gained no new owners and proprietors, as Chubays has promised. Privatization resulted in an enormous number of speculators who are looking for an opportunity to sell at high prices what they have bought dirt cheap".

Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Appointed

LD3105212694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1835 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Russian government has appointed Andrey Dagayev the new Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations.

INTERFAX learned from sources in the government that this appointment was due to the increasing role of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations in coordination of foreign economic activities of the federation's constituent members and to strengthening control over the export-import operations. Earlier, Dagayev had headed the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations Department of Export-Import Operations for State Needs and had been responsible for registration of special exporters. He will continue to perform these functions in his new post.

Dagayev said in an interview with INTERFAX that state control over export activities of the regions would be more important since the president had issued the decree cancelling quotas and licensing of export deliveries.

Vice Premier Anticipates Large-Scale Unemployment

LD3105140194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1327 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lilya Kuznetsova]

[Text] Moscow May 31 TASS—Large-scale unemployment is fraught with such a social explosion that consequences of hyper-inflation will seem a trifle, Russian Vice-Premier Yuriy Yarov told a seminar-conference on social development of Russian regions here today.

In his words, the situation will run out of control in the near future if the government, the federal employment service and the local authorities take no immediate measures to prevent large-scale unemployment.

According to forecasts of specialists, the number of officially registered unemployed will reach three millions by the end of this year. The concealed unemployment that is currently estimated at approximately seven million will at least double.

Unemployment has turned into a major problem of social services. It should be settled by joint efforts of the authorities, employment centers and trade unions, said Yarov.

In his opinion, the state should allocate money for payment of dole from the federal budget to those regions and districts that are in critical condition. The state debt of regions with a high rate of unemployment should be paid fully and in the first turn.

Budget Deficit Reaches 11 Percent of GNP

LD3005213094 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1920 GMT 30 May 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Mutual non-payments remain a characteristic feature of the Russian economy. This has been confirmed by the latest figures from the State Statistics Committee. As of 1 April 1994 the total debt of industrial enterprises, construction businesses, transport and agriculture amounted to 93 trillion rubles.

According to the estimates of the economics institute for the problems of the transition period, the budget deficit for the first quarter has already reached 11 percent of the Gross National Product. Let me remind you that in its

draft budget for 1994, the government undertook not to exceed the 10 percent mark for its deficit.

There are still budgetary debts to a number of industries. This in turn leads to non-payments on the part of the enterprises, not only to each other and to banks, but to the budget as well.

Militia Commander Reports Theft of Valuable Materials

LD3105214694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1845 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] It was reported at a briefing staged by the Interior Ministry on Tuesday in Moscow that gold and other valuable raw materials gained by criminals are used to solve definite political and propaganda tasks. In particular, the funds gained are invested into the arms business and financing of hostilities in zones of inter-ethnic conflict. In addition, the stolen gold and diamonds are accumulated in order "to create a currency basis for newly created independent state entities."

According to Major General of the Militia Ivan Sardak, deputy chief of the Main Department on Economic Crimes within the Russian Interior Ministry, a tendency for worsening characterizes the crime situation in the sphere of currency circulation which may still aggravate in the near future.

Over 1993 the Interior Ministry's services on economic crimes confiscated about two billion rubles in foreign currency in the course of criminal investigation, that is about 20 percent of all confiscated currency valuables. Over the first quarter of this year the law enforcement bodies have already confiscated 1,183 million rubles.

In addition, while investigating the cases of robbery of precious metals and stones, the law enforcement bodies have confiscated as much as 253 kilograms of gold, 49 kg of platinum, 1900 kg of silver, 2000 carats of diamonds, and other valuables amounting to 15.573 million rubles.

At the same time the real scale of precious materials robbery greatly exceeds the mentioned data because not more than 5-10 percent of the total number of such crimes are exposed by the law enforcement bodies.

Regional Affairs

Chechen State of Emergency Not Seen as Security Threat

LD3105144694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1310 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Moscow, 31 May—The fact that, in accordance with a decree issued on Monday [30 May] by the Russian president, a number of populated areas in Malgobekskiy and Sunzhenskiy Rayons of Ingushetia have been included in the state of emergency is not regarded by official Groznyy as a direct threat to the national security of Chechnya. Movladi Udugov, head of the Chechen Department of Information and Press, told this to an ITAR-TASS correspondent today in a telephone interview.

He noted that the preliminary analysis of the new decree "on the introduction of a state of emergency in parts of the territory of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Republic of Ingushetia" has not led to any undue concern on the part of the Chechen leadership. Movladi Udugov said that the villages in Sunzhenskiy and Malgobekskiy Rayons, which have been included in the state of emergency zone, are not under dispute. They were Ingush before the administrative and territorial division of 1934, when the Chechen-Ingush ASSR was set up.

At the same time, Movladi Udugov said, official Groznyy considers it unjustified to extend the state of emergency zone on the territory of Ingushetia. In his view, "Boris Yeltsin is artificially pushing the expansion of the emergency zone in order to create tension with Chechnya."

Movladi Udugov believes that because Ingushetia is a part of Russia, whereas Chechnya regards itself to be outside Russia, in principle the Chechen-Ingush border should be defined. Ruslan Aushev and Dzhokhar Dudayev have therefore signed an appropriate treaty on the principles of defining borders. The borders established before 1934 were taken as the basis for this.

Chechen Opposition Rejects Terrorism for Political Aims

LD3105203894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1917 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] In its statement today the Chechen opposition categorically rejects terrorism as a way of achieving political aims and urged the Chechen people to remain calm and not to react to similar provocations. The statement was circulated following the recent assassination attempt against Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev.

In Chechnya any terrorist act may trigger off civil war with unpredictable consequences, the statement underlined.

The opposition described the assassination attempt as a result of the criminal policy of the Chechen leadership from the very beginning aimed at linking up with criminal structures.

This proves that the leadership can exercise no real influence on the situation which encourages different armed groups seeking power. As a rule, such groups have no social support and resort to terrorism, the statement said.

Chechnya Says Russia Deploying in N. Ossetia

MK0106075094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by Natalya Gorodetskaya based on news agency materials under the "Northern Caucasus" rubric: "Chechnya Fears Russian Military Aggression. FIS Denies Groznyy's Accusations"]

[Excerpts] The Russian Foreign Intelligence Service [FIS] has denied a Chechnya Foreign Ministry report alleging that the attempt on the life of President Dudayev was prepared by Russian special services. An FIS representative has stated that "the foreign intelligence service has long renounced the carrying out of terrorist acts, and it does not even have corresponding structures."

In the meantime the Russian "state terrorism" idea has captivated the minds of Groznyy officials. Sultan Geliskhanov, head of Chechnya's state security department, has discovered a connection between the taking of hostages in Mineralnyye Vody and the attempt on the life of Dzhokhar Dudayev. Speaking at a conference of a special team investigating the circumstances of the attempt on the life of the president, he asserted that the story involving the terrorists who seized the bus was from beginning to end inspired by Russian special services. [passage omitted]

Yesterday, Chechnya made an announcement about a redeployment of Russian troops in areas bordering on the republic. Khamid Dzhamaldayev, deputy chief of the Chechen Republic's state security department, referring to the latest information from the Chechnya Armed Forces General Staff, said that a detachment of strike and ground-attack aviation of the Russian Air Force is being redeployed at the present time to the area of the air force base in Mozdok (North Ossetia) complete with Su-27 aircraft. According to him, special units of Russia's Ministry of Internal Affairs "equal in its fire power to a wartime army division" are being redeployed to Prigorodnyy Rayon of North Ossetia. The "power" ministers, however, maintain that the situation in the republic remains stable and fully under control. [passage omitted]

N. Ossetia, Ingush Presidents on State of Emergency

LD0106001794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1545 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, 31 May—Satisfaction with the Federation Council's endorsement of the Russian president's decree extending the state of emergency in the area of conflict in North Ossetia and Ingushetia was expressed in an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent by the presidents of both republics, who are members of the chamber. In the opinion of North Ossetian leader Akhsarbek Galazov, the refugee problem can only be resolved if people who are to live together understand that this is necessary. He also thinks that the refugee problem must be tackled throughout Russia.

Ingush President Ruslan Aushev said the new decree was "better than previous ones, since it was more down-to-earth." Specifically, it indicates that the procedure for moving people into abandoned dwellings must be submitted by 15 June. "But there is one danger: the decree may not be implemented," he added.

Concern that the decree may not be implemented was also voiced by Issa Kustoyev, chairman of the Federation Council's committee for constitutional legislation: "the disease has been allowed to develop unchecked and over billion rubles allocated to settle the problem have been swallowed up, yet there are still homeless people, and they are still starving." According to him, not a single question has yet been solved, although "decree after decree repeats that the provisional administration as a special form of rule must control the situation." A deputy who had visited the area of the conflict on more than one occasion, noted that the deputies' monitoring commission which it had been decided to set up had to check to see that the provisions of the presidential decree were being implemented.

Federation Council Endorses Ossetia State of Emergency

LD3105150894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1425 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Lyudmila Yermakova]

[Text] Moscow, 31 May (ITAR-TASS)—The Russian Federation president's edict "On the introduction of a state of emergency on part of the territory of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic" was endorsed by the Federation Council today. The state of emergency in the conflict zone is being extended to 31 July.

Deputies decided to set up a monitoring commission which will verify that the stipulations of the presidential edict are implemented.

North Ossetia Denies Killing Georgians

LD2805213294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1956 GMT 28 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz May 28 TASS—The North Ossetian Interior Ministry has denied reports about the participation of North Ossetian citizens in the terroristic act that killed eight Georgians near the village of Algun on Friday.

On Friday media reports said that "the terroristic group Les [not further identified] based on the outskirts of the Ossetian village of Tarskoye where the state of emergency is in effect killed eight Georgians near the Ingush village of Algun who were building a road between Ingushetia and Georgia, bypassing North Ossetia. They said that the bodies of the builders were allegedly transported to the Sunzhensk district of Ingushetia.

Information obtained by ITAR-TASS from the press service of the North Ossetian Interior Ministry said that the group Les does not exist in the republic. The Ingush side made a statement about the brutal killing of the Georgian workers without preliminary investigation into the circumstances of the incident, the press service said.

The press service said that the aim of this disinformation is to "aggravate the situation on the eve of the debates on the extension of the state of emergency in parts of North Ossetia and Ingushetia, discredit North Ossetian bodies of power, build up tension and disrupt the negotiation process initiated by North Ossetia."

The state of emergency in some districts of North Ossetia has been extended until May 31. According to reports, the situation in these districts remains tense mostly because of the continuing fighting and attacks on civilians, military units and police patrols and hostage taking.

Sporadic shooting broke out seven times in the Prigorod District of North Ossetia last night. No casualties were reported. The situation is under control of Russian peace-keeping troops and local law enforcement bodies.

Yeltsin Reaffirms Stand on Republics' Sovereignty

LD3005142894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1243 GMT 30 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina, Yuriy Sizov, and Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Naberezhnyye Chelny (Republic of Tatarstan), 30 May—Boris Yeltsin does not renounce the formula "take as much sovereignty as you can stand," which he uttered in 1991 with regard to the republics and regions that were part of Russia. The president of the Russian Federation stated on the steps of the aircraft on arrival in Naberezhnyye Chelny: "I was beaten, severely criticized for this phrase, but I endured it all and was right."

To confirm his words, Boris Yeltsin gave the example of Tatarstan, the bilateral treaty which showed that "the republic has taken on as much responsibilities as it can cope with. As for what is beyond its capabilities, it has delegated that to the federal authorities."

According to the Russian president, the main thing for Russia at present is to implement the treaty. In the view of Emil Pain, a Russian president expert, both sides, Russia and Tatarstan, have so far been violating the agreement: the republic is sending four-five times less tax revenue to the federal budget than had been laid down in the agreement. In turn, Russia is not ensuring that a mechanism for the implementation of the treaty is being drawn up.

Tatarstan's President Mintimer Shaymiyev, when greeting Boris Yeltsin at Naberezhnyye Chelny airport, reaffirmed his adherence to the phrase "strong republics—strong center." He said that the aim of the present meeting was "strengthening trust, finding a joint solution to economic problems, and discussing federal programs."

Boris Yeltsin intends to begin his look at the course of reform in Tatarstan at the Kama automobile works, beginning with the production plant that was hit by fire, to decide what help can be given to the automobile manufacturers. In the view of Sergey Shakhray, which he expressed to an ITAR-TASS correspondent on the eve of the visit to Tatarstan, the matter does not concern credits or subsidies for the Kama automobile works, but guarantees from the Russian Government for commercial and foreign investment in the joint-stock company.

Yeltsin Views Relations With Tatarstan

LD3105160894 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1400 GMT 31 May 94

[Video report from Kazan by correspondent Andrey Murtazin, including recording of remarks made to journalists by President Boris Yeltsin; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Murtazin] [passage omitted] Replying to questions from journalists, Boris Yeltsin noted that treaty relations between the Tatarstan and the center are being implemented. True, since the beginning of the year Kazan has incurred a debt of 43 billion rubles, but this is mainly because of mutual non-payments between enterprises.

[Yeltsin] We are living in accordance with the treaty. You understand? In the treaty we have divided up the functions between the state powers of Tatarstan and the Russian Federation. Each has undertaken certain functions which it is performing and for which it must be responsible, and for which it must receive money. So sources are obtained from here and from there. So it cannot be called subsidies. It is simply the correct distribution of labor and finance. [passage omitted]

Soskovets To Head Russian-Tatar Commission

LD3105135294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1241 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina, Yuriy Sizov, and Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan, 31 May (ITAR-TASS)—Boris Yeltsin and [Tatarstan's President] Mintimer Shaymiyev think that

implementation of the treaty between Russia and Tatarstan is a most important task of bilateral relations, the presidents of Russia and Tatarstan told journalists today immediately after the meeting between the Russian delegation and the Tatarstan leadership today in the Kazan kremlin.

The president of Russia said that his meetings with the inhabitants of the capital of Tatarstan showed that the political situation in the republic is returning to normal after the conclusion of the bilateral treaty. Boris Yeltsin stressed at the same time that the treaty should not become just a "piece of paper". A bilateral commission has been set up to implement the treaty. It will be headed on the Russian side by First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets and not by Sergey Shakhray as was planned. "On the Tatarstan side, the commission will be headed by the prime minister [Mukhammet Sabirov]," the president of Russia said.

In Boris Yeltsin's opinion, Russia is now to move toward decentralization on a country-wide scale. However, it is inadvisable to apply the terms of the treaty between Russia and Tatarstan to other subjects of the federation. "A separate treaty should be signed with every republic, kray, and oblast, a separate demarcation of powers should be envisioned. We will move along that path but not so quickly that similar treaties will be signed with other regions this year," the Russian president said.

Replying to questions on the possibility of applying the bilateral treaty with Tatarstan to the CIS, the leader of Russia said that it is still too early to talk of that. In his opinion this model must first be developed within the framework of Russia.

Boris Yeltsin will leave Kazan for Moscow once the meeting is over.

Yeltsin Praises Tatarstan State Farm

LD3105205594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1201 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina, Yuriy Sizov, and Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan, 31 May—"An example of the economic approach to economic management" was how Boris Yeltsin described the Mayskiy state farm, which he visited on Tuesday during his two-day working trip to Tatarstan. The Russian president also pointed to its high profit level and progressive production methods in the growing of vegetables. Even so, Mintimer Shaymiyev, Tatarstan's president, acknowledged that the republican's agricultural industry could not have developed without subsidies from the Russian budget.

Fatikh Sibagatullin, minister of agriculture and food, said in an interview with ITAR-TASS correspondents that 80 billion rubles [R] had been transferred to the republic from the Russian exchequer to meet rural needs and, following the arrival in Kazan of Russian Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha, the republic's agricultural sector would receive in June a further R35 billion in the form of credits. It is evidently for this reason that Tatarstan manages to keep food prices lower than in other regions.

However, Boris Yeltsin told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that "these sums should not be called subsidies: Tatarstan and ourselves live on the basis of a treaty, and we arrange our division of labor and finances in accordance with it." The president of the Russian Federation explained the fact that Tatarstan has owed the Russian budget R43 billion since the beginning of the year as being due to the general cash-flow problem. Mintimer Shaymiyev told journalists that, once the cash-flow problem has been solved, Tatarstan's debts to the federal budget would be paid off.

Yeltsin 'Pleased' With Results of Tatarstan Treaty

PM3105181394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Boris Bronshteyn and Vasiliy Kononenko: "Leaders Demonstrate New Approaches in Kazan, While Entourage Display Proven Methods of Window-Dressing"]

[Text] Kazan—"I have been well and truly hammered and criticized for the treaty with Tatarstan, but I have nonetheless proved to be right." B. Yeltsin began his two-day visit to Tataria [Tatarstan] with this statement, which had to all appearances been thought out in his Kremlin office. In order that there should be no doubts as to the correctness of his chosen way of saving the federation, the president rephrased the sensational statement that he had made in Kazan in 1990 as follows: "Tatarstan has assumed as many powers under the treaty as it was able to assume. We are satisfied with what has been left to federal organs. This is the first treaty of its kind and it is important for me to see with my own eyes how it is being put into practice."

There is every indication that B. Yeltsin is pleased with the result of the operation of the hard-won treaty on the delimitation of powers, which has stabilized relations between Moscow and Kazan, and intends to pay attention mainly to purely practical matters.

In turn Tatarstan's President M. Shaymiyev, answering a question from your IZVESTIYA correspondent, also said: "We need to strengthen the trust that has emerged on the basis of the treaty. In my view, it (trust) does now exist, we need to set about organizing the economic relations that are normal for a market."

B. Yeltsin had to demonstrate the success of the idea of national accord founded on compromise. Against the backdrop of events in the Crimea, the treaty with Tataria is seen by analysts as an example of a well-considered flexible policy. Similar treaties are being prepared for certain other regions of Russia, in particular with Kabardino-Balkaria, Krasnodar Kray, and Udmurtia.

B. Yeltsin was extremely interested in the experience of crime-fighting in Naberezhnyye Chelny and the republic as a whole. (During a conversation with your IZVESTIYA correspondent [Russian Interior Minister] V. Yerin did not hide his delight at the emergency measures that have in the last year made it possible to partially curb young criminal groupings in the republic).

As for local nationalists declaring Yeltsin "persona non grata" in Tatarstan, they believe that the Russian president has not kept his word that he gave in 1990 regarding Kazan's sovereignty—M. Shaymiyev retorted with undisguised irritation: "Nothing ever pleases them." Nevertheless he reaffirmed: Official Kazan favors peace with Moscow, and window-dressing verging on insanity was organized within the framework of this policy.

In this case the hurried asphalting of roads and streets is a mere bagatelle. Actions on a state scale have been organized in places where Yeltsin is staying. Homes and balconies have been cleaned, store windows have been done up, and streets blocked for days. Thousands of militia personnel have been assembled in Naberezhnyye Chelny and Kazan. Regrettably, the military have not always remembered their duty and humanity.

During the afternoon of 30 May a fire broke out in an apartment block on Uprising Street where the presidential cortege was to have passed. Despite a large concentration of militia forces none of the military came to help a woman who leaped out of the blazing apartment onto the balcony. To her good fortune the personnel of a store on the first floor displayed quick thinking. They grabbed a rug off the shelf, stretched it down over the sidewalk, and the girl jumped from the fifth floor. She was taken to the hospital with serious injuries and burns. Firefighters had barely put out the flames when decorators arrived and immediately painted over the soot.

Politics is still the main thing of value, not people....

Yeltsin Returns to Moscow After Tatarstan Trip

LD3105140994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1420 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Moscow, 31 May—Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin has just returned to Moscow from Kazan. He spent two days on a working visit to Tatarstan. Druing the trip, he visited Naberezhnyye Chelny, where he familiarized himself with the problems of the KAMAZ motor vehicle works.

The main point of today's meeting with the leadership of the republic in the capital of Tatarstan was to work out the machinery for the implementation of Russia's treaty with Tatarstan. The president of Russia and his counterpart Mintimer Shaymiyev confirmed this to journalists at the end of their meeting in the Kazan Kremlin.

Moscow Mayor Accused of Privatization Irregularity

LD2705172994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1516 GMT 27 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Yezhov]

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS—A representation to cancel the regulations on privatization in Moscow, which were prepared on the instruction of Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov and run counter to the current legislation, has been made by Chairman of the Russian State Property Committee Anatoliy Chubays to the Russian procurator general's office.

"Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov has launched a campaign of large-scale violations of privatization legislation and even fully prohibited the transfer of state property into private in the city," Chubays told correspondents.

In his words, the Moscow City Committee for Property gradually stopped corporatization and sales of Moscow enterprises at privatization voucher auctions. The share of joint stock enterprises in Moscow amounted to 15 per cent from the overall number of enterprises liable for corporatization in April 1994, as compared to 62 per cent throughout Russia. Moscow is lagging behind in privatization of large enterprises as well.

The privatization situation in Moscow can be estimated as catastrophic, said Chubays.

Tuva Republic Signs Treaty on Social Accord

LD0106002594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1703 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Sobetskiy]

[Excerpt] Kysyl, 31 May—The Tuva Republic has joined the Treaty of Social Accord. The procedure of signing this important document by representatives of local government of all levels, heads of the People's Hural and parliamentary factions, political parties, public movements, and religious organizations has taken place here on 31 May.

Among the signatories is the republican communist organization, which joined the treaty even though Moscow leaders of the Russian Communist Party expressed negative attitude towards the treaty. [passage omitted]

Naval Flotilla Mines Approaches to Arms Depots

LD3105080994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0721 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Borovkov]

[Text] Petropavlovsk Kamchatsky May 31 TASS—The Kamchatka naval flotilla has begun to plant mines on

unguarded approaches and terrotories adjacent to arms depots, a spokesman in the flotilla press group told ITAR-TASS.

This is being done on an instruction from the Russian defence minister and the commander-in-chief of the Navy to prevent thefts of weapons and ammunition, the spokesman said.

Last year, more than ten attempts to steal weapons from the flotilla's one facility alone were thwarted. The facility is located, incidentally, within the city boundaring of Petropavlovsk. In a half of cases, the arms theft attempts involved adolescents.

Warning signs will be set up near the mined places. The flotilla command cautioned all residents of the region against crossing the boundaries of mined territories.

International Affairs

Kravchuk, Demirel View Ukraine-Turkey Relations

LD3105204994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2018 GMT 31 May 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Trotsenko—TASS]

[Text] Kiev June 1 TASS—A news conference of presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Suleyman Demirel focused today on important aspects of Ukrainian-Turkish relations and some preliminary results of the Ukrainian official visit of the Turkish president.

Kravchuk told the news conference they consider the official Ukrainian visit of the Turkish president to be an important step in the development of bilateral relations and a significant event with a positive influence on the whole Black Sea region.

Ukraine attaches great importance to its relations with the Turkish Republic and is striving to build bilateral relations on the basis of principles of mutual respect, equality and good-neighbourliness. The political guideline for the two states is the treaty on friendship and cooperation signed at a summit meeting in 1992, said the Ukrainian president.

The recent meetings and negotiations held with participation of Ukrainian and Turkish high-ranking officials focused on deepening of the bilateral relations, primarily in the economic sphere. Both sides noted that the goods turnover has considerably increased over the past years. At the same time, it does not correspond to the Ukrainian and Turkish abilities and needs.

Cooperation with the Turkish Republic is a Ukrainian priority, said Kravchuk. Ukraine is interested in the Turkish experience of democratic transformations and building of a market economy.

The Ukrainian president stressed that the meetings discussed a broad range of international issues, including the state and prospects for Black Sea economic cooperation and ways to settle conflicts in the Balkans and the Transcaucasia. The sides noted that consolidation of stability and security in the Black Sea region corresponds to their national interests, regional and European interests, and agreed to coordinate efforts in creation of an atmosphere of confidence and cooperation in the region.

Mutual striving for expanded cooperation is registered in the joint communique and other documents signed during the official Ukrainian visit of the Turkish president. Kravchuk expressed the assurance the visit will give a fresh impetus to the relations of Ukraine and Turkey.

In his turn, the Turkish president said that the republic attaches major importance to its relations with Ukraine, bearing in mind the two states are the largest ones in the region. They feel responsible for peace and friendship in the region, he said.

Turkey also attaches great importance to the preservation of Ukrainian territorial integrity and peace within the framework of the United Nations and CSCE. Proclamation of Ukrainian independence has boosted the development of Ukrainian-Turkish relations, he said.

The president is sure that his visit will boost cooperation. The Ukrainian-Turkish goods turnover exceeds 500 million U.S. dollars, and they hope to make it one billion. Ukrainian and Turkish businessmen are forming a cooperation union and have started to look for new ways in economy and trade.

The president is convinced that new possibilities for the expansion of mutually beneficial relations will be created.

The presidents answered numerous questions of correspondents.

Kravchuk Stresses Defending Territorial Integrity

LD3105195094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1835 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has said Ukraine will protect its territorial integrity and the inviolability of its borders under any circumstances. The president and the parliament of Ukraine will do everything in order to prevent a breach of territorial integrity, discuss all disputable issues with Crimea and settle the issue without conflicts, he pointed out at his joint news conference with Turkish President Suleyman Demirel in Kiev Tuesday.

Turkish President Suleyman Demirel is staying in Kiev on an official visit.

Kiev's ultimatum to Crimea demanding the Crimean legislature reconsider its decision to re-enact the Constitution of May 6 1992 expired on May 30. The Constitution provides for dual citizenship and treaty-based relations between Ukraine and Crimea, which is unacceptable for Kiev.

Commenting on the situation in Crimea, Demirel described it as "Ukraine's internal affair" pointing out he had a high opinion of Leonid Kravchuk's position.

Turkey's Demirel Addresses Ukrainian Supreme Council

TA3105174594 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1000 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] President Suleyman Demirel has stated that Turkey and the Ukraine share a historical heritage as well as a common geographical area and added that relations will develop quickly as a result of these favorable conditions. TRT correspondent Yavuz Yorulmaz reports from Kiev:

[Begin Yorulmaz recording] Demirel, who is currently visiting the Ukraine, delivered a speech at the Ukrainian Supreme Council this morning.

In his speech, Demirel pointed out that the Ukraine demonstrated its political will when it converted to pluralistic democracy. Stressing that those that have faith in democracy are not deterred by hardships, Demirel added: The advise I would like to give you as the president of Turkey, Ataturk's Turkey and a nation which inherited a great and rich historical heritage, is that the fate of a country is shaped by its faith in democracy. In addition to having all kinds of solutions in a pluralistic democracy, it is the only regime where a suitable and favorable solution can be found in an constructive manner. Demirel indicated that another condition for achieving a pluralistic democracy is success in a free market economy. Stating that Turkey, which has been implementing a free market economy for a long time now, is perpetually in search of new pursuits, Demirel noted that the Ukraine should not be discouraged by obstacles on the road to a free market economy.

Demirel also met Oleksandr Moroz, speaker of the Ukranian Supreme Council, and conferred with him for some time. Demirel later received a group of Turkish university students, listened to their concerns, and pointed out to the importance of verifying whether the courses they are taking correspond to those in Turkey. Demirel asked Professor Mehmet Saglam, president of Council on Higher Education, that more information should be given to the student on this issue.

Receiving representatives of Turkish companies in Ukraine, Demirel pointed out to a great potential existing in this country for Turkish businessmen. Demirel indicated that special efforts will be exerted to evaluate this potential. Turkish businessmen presented him with a plaque in memory of his visit.

Demirel later visited a 1,700-building complex built by Turks for Ukrainian officers. Demirel will receive the Ukrainian deputy prime minister after visiting the Cathedral of St. Sophia. The presidents of both countries will hold a joint news conference in the afternoon where they will assess Demirel's visit.

Meanwhile, the joint communique signed yesterday by Ukraine and Turkey will be announced today. [end recording]

Demirel Criticizes U.S. Aid Cut

TA3105195494 Nicosia Bayrak Radio in Turkish 1930 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Turkish President Suleyman Demirel has said that he deeply regrets that the United States linked aid to Turkey to certain conditions. We do not consider this a friendly act, he said.

Demirel who is on an official visit to Ukraine, was asked by a journalist whether this U.S. move had anything to do with the fact that the National Security Council did not discuss the Poised Hammer issue. Demirel replied: Naturally, we deeply regret the United States linking aid to Turkey to human rights, terrorism, and the Cyprus issue. We do not consider this a friendly act.

Demirel pointed out that it is natural to struggle when faced with such developments, and that the Poised Hammer cannot be discussed under such conditions. He stressed that the National Security Council did not discuss the Poised Hammer, whose mandate will end at the end of this month.

Zlenko on Crimean Dispute, Relations With Russia

BR3105150294 Paris LE FIGARO in French 28-29 May 94 p 2

[Interview with Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko by Laure Mandeville; place and date not given: "Zlenko: 'Russia and Ukraine Are No Enemies'"]

[Text] [Mandeville] To what extent did the Moscow negotiations make it possible to settle the Crimea question?

[Zlenko] The problem of Crimea should not be linked to these negotiations. What we discussed with the Russians was the question of the Black Sea Fleet. On this point, we made progress, but not significant progress.

We are in agreement on the partition of the fleet, but there has still been no compromise on the question of bases, despite Ukraine's concessions. We have accepted that the headquarters of the Russian fleet should be in Sevastopol, and that Sevastopol should be a Russian base, but Russia is demanding other bases, which is not acceptable. We are prepared to make arrangements for the location of other port facilities but we do not want to have conditions dictated to us.

This is our territory, but we say that this problem absolutely must be solved and that the status of the fleet must be decided once and for all. Second, Russia must force its military to accept the law of the foreign country in which it is based. The fleet must not interfere in Ukraine's internal affairs.

[Mandeville] Is it doing so now?

[Zlenko] Yes, we think that there was interference in the conflict between Kiev and Simferopol. The statements by the Black Sea Fleet press center are misinformation and increase the risks of provocation in Crimea. We have warned Moscow journalists of this danger. Some are spreading rumors about the arrival of Ukrainian troops, which I refute. The Ukrainian troops which were there are still there, but there are no new ones.

[Mandeville] With regard to Crimea, [Russian Foreign Minister] Andrey Kozyrev spoke of the danger of "Yugoslavization."

[Zlenko] Parallels of this kind are not appropriate. It is true that there is a risk of provocation, but we will solve this question. It is an internal Ukrainian problem. We will not tolerate any attack on our country's territorial unity, which the 1992 Crimean Constitution calls into question. Calling our territory into question would not only be a danger for the Ukrainians, but for the whole of Europe.

Ultranationalist Machinations

[Mandeville] There is a debate in Ukraine on the best way of facing the secessionist threats. Some think that the unitarian state should be strengthened, whereas others think that a federal state would make it possible to avoid losing everything...

[Zlenko] I do not deny that there are supporters of a federal state in our country. But I think that there is no reason to move in that direction. All the opinion polls prove that this does not interest the population. In my view, this idea is being promoted by some determined circles which are inspired by Russian ultranationalist circles. Their aim is to undermine the Ukrainian state.

[Mandeville] It is being said that at the forthcoming presidential election, it will be the man in favor of rapprochement with Russia who will win in Ukraine?

[Zlenko] We must not make enemies of Russia and Ukraine. Some people in Moscow, but also in our country, are trying to set us against each other, but Ukraine has never turned away from Russia, it is our neighbor, our history, it is a special partner, the dominant factor in our foreign policy. We must be close while being independent and equal states. The problem is that there is an imperialist syndrome in some Russian political circles, the idea that we will all return to Russia, as before. No! There is a new situation, there is no longer any big brother or little brother.

[Mandeville] Do you fear the results of the forthcoming Russian presidential election, the arrival in power of extremists like Rutskoy or Zhirinovskiy?

[Zlenko] This danger has been allayed. But the social problem which was their breeding ground remains. It must be remembered that the success of the economic reforms will be decisive.

[Mandeville] What conclusion do you draw from the Conference on Stability in Europe?

[Zlenko] I welcome this initiative by France. This conference was welcome, because it answered the questions which are worrying our continent. It put a finger on the problem of minorities and borders. It gave a clear warning to those who still cherish the idea of maintaining a divided Europe or putting up new walls between nations. The conference showed that we must think about a strategy for the whole of Europe in order to prevent the return of history's demons.

Zlenko: Solution on Crimea 'Almost Within Reach'

BR2705122194 Paris LE MONDE in French 27 May 94 p 26

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko by Sophie Shihab in Paris on 25 May: "Zlenko: 'In Crimea We Have Chosen Preventive Diplomacy'"]

[Text] Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko told LE MONDE on Wednesday, 25 May, that he had come to Paris as a "full participant" in the Stability in Europe Conference, and objected to the title of "guest or observer." He was conciliatory and optimistic with regard to the current crisis in Crimea.

For three days now we have been awaiting the outcome of the Russia-Ukraine negotiations in Moscow to assess whether Crimea has any chance of escaping the same terrible fate already suffered by other "hot" outlying regions of Russia, although it is true that in these other regions Russia was up against states even more vulnerable than Ukraine. On Wednesday 25 May, both sides announced that a further wait would be required while the experts draw up "in 10 to 12 days" a "detailed" agreement on how the Black Sea Fleet is to be split up. This is the fourth time in less than two years that Kiev and Moscow have postponed an agreement on this problem which risks escalating even further.

Nevertheless, the same day, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko, who is in Paris to attend the Stability in Europe Conference, presented the main points of a solution which he considered to be almost within reach: As planned, the Russians will keep their major base in Sebastopol, while the Ukrainian Naval Command (controlling 18 percent of the ships) will be installed a little further, in Balaklava. The other bases of the divided fleet will be detailed in "separate, case-by-case agreements based on their location." In short, they would then get down to the serious business of the financial arrangements.

For Mr. Zlenko "does not believe" that Crimea risks a conflagration, even if "there are parallels with what happened in Transnistria [as published] and Abkhazia." These two regions of Moldavia and Georgia, respectively, whose population consists mainly of Russians or Russian allies, have experienced civil war in which Moscow took the side of the separatists, even though Russia is now supervising negotiations between these forces and their former administrations. In the Ukrainian minister's view: "These bitter experiences will serve as a lesson, showing us that everyone is a loser when a military solution is attempted; you know, the Abkhazians today are in a most unenviable situation."

He continued: "That is why in Crimea we have already chosen preventive diplomacy." He stressed in passing that his country had not waited for Mr. Balladur to come up with a security pact for central and eastern Europe, in which Russia was invited to participate out of decency.

Mr. Zlenko again denied that any Ukrainian military reinforcements had been sent to Crimea, as had been reported and vigorously condemned by the Russian media. In Kiev on Wednesday, a delegation from the pro-Russian Crimean Government agreed to temporarily freeze the application of its virtually separatist Constitution in exchange for the creation of joint working groups by the Kiev and Crimean Parliaments—a first step toward federal-type relations. As for President Kravchuk, he recognized that "we cannot ignore the fact that the Russian majority in Crimea will always tend to look to Moscow."

Mr. Zlenko said that Crimea could have a status similar to a "special economic zone," but there was still no question of the Ukraine becoming a federation: "Our opinion polls show that this is not a pressing issue," he said. He described as "stories made up by journalists" the reports of cossack volunteers arriving in Crimea and similar preparations under way in the opposing ultranationalist paramilitary camp in western Ukraine.

Although these "stories" are worrying, with two Armed Forces taking up positions in the peninsula, the Crimean crisis is not on the agenda at the Paris Stability Conference. According to the hosts, it "directly" concerns only those countries looking to join the European Union and which are not already "in a crisis situation."

Mr. Zlenko and his eight-man delegation object to this: "We are here as full participants in the conference, not as guests or observers. In this way, Ukraine wants to show that we must not continue with the policy of dividing Europe, but should instead unite around shared principles those people who consider that this, today, is their conference and those who are supposed to be on the other side of the fence."

Does this "fence" separate Russia and Ukraine? The response given by Mr. Zlenko, well-versed in Soviet diplomacy, shows the road that has been taken since the swaggering declarations made in the initial stages of Ukrainian independence: "I must still tell you the most important thing: Russia cannot be excluded from the security system that has to be created in Europe. That is logical, the world must move on and shed the stereotypes of confrontation..."

Moroz, Israeli Envoy Discuss Ties

AU3105170694 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 25 May 94 p 1

[Unattributed report]

[Text] In the evening of 23 May, Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz received Israel's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in Ukraine, Tzvi Magen, at the latter's request. In the course of the conversation, which proceeded in a businesslike and relaxed atmosphere, an exchange of opinions on the present socioeconomic and political situation in Ukraine took place, as well as on Ukrainian-Israeli relations and ways of developing them. Particular attention was given to questions of mutually advantageous cooperation between the two states and to prospects and directions for intensifying them.

Talks on Fleet To Continue After Parliament Discussion

LD3105162194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1335 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Moscow-Kiev talks on sharing out the Black Sea Fleet [BSF] will be continued after the Ukrainian parliament has discussed the issue, Ukrainian Vice Premier Valeriy Shmarov told Interfax-Ukraine on Tuesday. He said Kiev would use the deputies' position as a guideline in talks with Moscow.

Shmarov who was involved in last week's talks in Moscow on the future of the fleet said that examination was now under way of BSF's infrastructure in Crimea before the resumption of high level talks a bit later.

He invited the Russian delegation to Kiev describing it as a better venue for the second round of talks.

In the meantime, Russia's Deputy Defence Minister Boris Gromov and Special Envoy Yuriy Dubinin are due to arrive in Kiev on Tuesday, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Navy Stops Supplying Information to Black Sea Fleet

LD3105125594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1149 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Command of Ukraine's navy has stopped supplying the navigation services of the Black Sea Fleet with technical information. As a high-ranking official from the Naval Staff told INTERFAX-UKRAINA, this decision was taken because "the Black Sea Fleet Command refuses to resolve the issue of jointly ensuring the safety of navigation, including exchanges in navigation information."

Meanwhile, as the spokesman for Ukraine's navy said, the Odessa and Nikolayev hydrographic districts run by Kiev "regularly give information to Ukrainian and Russian civilian ships and to the Black Sea Fleet." "In the meantime, the Black Sea Fleet Command has failed to notify us even of the hydrographic works to be conducted in the Azov Sea in June, though such works must be coordinated officially," said INTERFAX-UKRAINA's interviewee.

G-7 Fails To Commit to Chernobyl Aid

LD3105134394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1243 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnik]

[Text] Kiev, 31 May (ITAR-TASS)—The working meeting between representatives of the G7 countries and a Ukrainian delegation on what is to happen to Chernobyl nuclear power station has achieved no concrete results.

The international experts did not commit themselves to a specific amount of assistance to Ukraine to build new nuclear power stations in place of Chernobyl, Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Shmarov told ITAR-TASS in an exclusive interview today. "Billions of dollars are needed to carry out the whole package of projects. At least four billion is needed to close down Chernobyl nuclear power station alone."

Valeriy Shmarov said the talks will be continued. He described Ukraine's position as follows: "If you want to avert danger, help us."

Deputy Minister on Plans Regarding GATT Membership

WS0106095194 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 27 May 94 p 4

[Interview with Serhiy Osyka, deputy minister of external economic relations, by Volodymyr Skanya; place and date not given: "The World Trade Organization Is the United Nations Economic Organization"—three first paragraphs are HOLOS UKRAYINY introduction]

[Text] The phrase "the world is opening Ukraine for itself," which is currently very popular, to my regret, is to a great extent associated with the trips of our folklore groups abroad and the participation of the Ukrainian servicemen in the UN peacekeeping actions in Yugoslavia. However, very important developments—enabling Ukraine not only "to expose" itself to the world but to occupy a prominent place in the international community—are often left unnoticed by Ukrainian society.

Recently, an event of international importance took place in Marrakech, Morocco: Representatives of more than 140 states of the world—GATT members—along with representatives of such international organizations as the United Nations, the World Bank and the IMF, signed an agreement stipulating the establishment of the World Organization of Trade. In addition, they signed over 20 economic pacts. Ukraine also participated in this meeting, as a state which is going to become a GATT member.

Ukrainian representative to GATT Serhiy Osyka, deputy minister of external economic relations, who was a member of the Ukrainian Government delegation, kindly agreed to fill the information vacuum regarding this event.

[Osyka] What happened in Marrakech, is, in fact, the legalization of a new global legal order in trade, tariffs, customs, investment, and other sectors of international economic relations, which was achieved by GATT members after almost 50 years of its existence. The World Organization of Trade is, as I can put it, the United Nations Economic Organization.

Marrakech-94 enjoys similar international significance as San-Francisco and Bretton Woods-44 when the United Nations and the World Bank were established.

[Skanya] How closely is Ukraine "linked" with this organization?

[Osyka] You know that participants in the GATT session discussed and supported a Ukrainian application regarding its membership within the GATT on 17 December 1993. Currently, a memorandum—regarding the foreign economic status of Ukraine—which is a key element in the process of joining the GATT, is in the works. Its first version has already been drafted. In general, this memorandum is not simply a document. It addresses a series of urgent measures that must be implemented. It includes an analysis of the genuine competitiveness of the Ukrainian industrial and agricultural sectors; the bringing of the Ukrainian standards into conformity with international norms to simplify international trade and restore fair costs of the Ukrainian goods; the drafting of the normative-legal and administrative-organizational basis for the national export control; and the bringing of the Ukrainian legislation into conformity with the norms and principles of GATT, including the adjustment of trade, customs, tarifsf, investment, taxation, finance, banking, and other procedures with international standards.

[Skanya] When can Ukraine actually become a full member of the GATT and the World Trade Organization? What can this give us?

[Osyka] As a rule, everything depends on the work of our legislators; we should do this as quickly as possible. The point is that 125 states—accounting for more than 90 percent of the global trading volume—are members of the signed agreements and conventions. Meanwhile, 21 states—including Russia and Belarus—are waiting to join GATT and the World Trade Organization. At the same time, only a small number of states stay on the sidelines of GATT and the World Trade Organization. The longer we are outsiders, the more difficult it will be for us to build normal economic relations with the world.

As a rule, cooperation can be developed through direct agreements between the states, but this process is so complicated and time-consuming that it cannot satisfy us. I can cite an example: Over the years of its independence, Ukraine managed to obtain a most-favored-nation trade status with only three dozen states. When it becomes a member of GATT and the World Trade Organization, this issue could be resolved simultaneously with all GATT members.

Moreover, according to experts' estimates, we expect that Russia will receive a most-favored-nation trade status by the end of this year. If we do not manage to join

the World Trade Organization together with Russia, our economic relations will be build on a basis that could be unfavorable to us. On the contrary, membership in this organization will lift a great number of problems in Russian-Ukrainian tariffs, trade, customs, investment, and other relations, what will enable us to establish a free trade zone and customs unions. All these processes will be based on general standards that have been tested internationally. Again, we should not have to reinvent the wheel.

In addition, this will enable us to establish a mechanism for economic integration with the key trading partners in the West—the member-states of the former Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Poland, Hungary, Czekhia, Slovakia....)—which became GATT members in the 1970's.

[Skanya] In a word, is the process of joining GATT and the World Trade Organization a key step in our economic policy?

[Osyka] Yes, and not only from an economic viewpoint. The political importance of this step is obvious. The international community meets us halfway and intends to help us. In addition, the United States is ready to provide us with the technical documentation which we should submit to join GATT and the World Trade Organization. This documentation includes not only consultations and advice by U.S. experts, but also financial substantiation for bringing the Ukrainian legislation in agreement with the GATT principles and norms and the establishment of a national system of export control. We are already working on this project.

National Affairs

Kravchuk Addresses Parliament on Crimean Crisis

LD0106111794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1012 GMT 1 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Mikhail Melnik]

[Text] Kiev, 1ST Jun (ITAR-TASS)—"The Ukrainian Supreme Council should adopt decisions that would be proportionate to the current situation in relations between Ukraine and the Republic of Crimea", Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk said today in an address to the Ukrainian parliament.

In his view, "the political forces that have proclaimed the secession of the Republic of Crimea from Ukraine and its merger with the Russian Federation have now gained power in the autonomous republic." He believes that the Crimean leaders have chosen two routes. The first is the adoption of a constitution that proposes to proclaim the Crimean autonomy an independent state, and the second is to restore the old Soviet Union, which is impracticable. He believes that the conclusion should be unambiguous: The Crimean issue ought to be solved only in the framework of the Ukrainian Constitution, the president stressed. "We must do it," Leonid Kravchuk said.

He made the proposal to immediately form the Ukrainian Constitutional Court, which should repeal all decisions of the Crimean parliament and president contradicting the laws of the Ukrainian state. He also proposed making amendments and addendums to the Ukrainian Constitution, to the law on demarcation of powers between the Ukraine and the Republic of the Crimea, in which it is to be clearly defined that the Crimean autonomous entity is the territory of the Ukrainian state. In the opinion of the president of Ukraine, all power ministries of the Crimea should also be subordinated to Kiev. It is also important to settle budgetary relations. "Now we must take the most radical measures to stabilize the situation, because the consequences could be even worse," Leonid Kravchuk stressed. And this needs to be done in the framework of the Constitution, be believes.

Offers Power-Sharing Arrangement

AU0106103494 Paris AFP in English 0955 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] Kiev, June 1 (AFP)—Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, seeking to bring Crimea back into the fold, said Wednesday [1 June] he was prepared to consider a new power-sharing arrangement with the Russian-speaking republic.

In an address to lawmakers, Kravchuk said that a new constitutional court could be formed within a month to examine the Crimean basic law that provides for a Crimean citizenship, treaty relations with Kiev and the establishment of a separate militia force.

The Ukrainian leader also held out an olive branch to the leadership of the breakaway republic by announcing that he was prepared to consider legislative changes that would give Crimea greater autonomy from Kiev.

"I pledge to maintain peace and calm but only if Crimea adopts laws and legislative acts that are in line with the Ukrainian Constitution," Kravchuk said.

"Only in this instance is compromise and settlement of all outstanding issues possible," he said, adding: "There are extremely dangerous precedents currently being established in Crimea."

Crimea, a predominantly Russian-populated republic bordering the Black Sea, has stepped up its drive to secede from Ukraine and be reunited with Russia since the election in January of Russian nationalist Yuriy Meshkov to the presidency.

The republic was part of Russia up until 1954 when then-Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev handed over the territory to Ukraine as a "gift" celebrating the friendship between the two Slav peoples.

The Crimean crisis was triggered by the local parliament's decision on May 20 to restore a 1992 constitution in a move that was viewed by Kiev as tantamount to a declaration of independence.

The attempt at a settlement came ahead of the June 26 presidential election which Kravchuk is expected to lose and is seeking to postpone.

In his address, Kravchuk cited an agreement reached between Russia and the breakaway republic of Tatarstan as a framework for negotiating a new power-sharing arrangement that would give Crimea greater autonomy from Kiev in managing its economy.

But the Ukrainian leader stressed that the Russian-Tatar agreement did not provide for a republican police force and for citizenship rights which he said amounted to a "gross violation of the Ukrainian Constitution."

He asserted that all law-enforcement agencies and security forces must be subordinated to Kiev and proposed that a post of deputy prime minister responsible for territorial issues be created as well as a parliamentary commission.

Kravchuk announced that a 10-judge panel for the new court could be appointed by parliament within a month and proposed that five candidates be put forward by Speaker Alexander Moroz and the remaining five by the presidency.

The parliament was to examine the Kravchuk proposal and render its verdict later during the day.

Parliament Debates Possible Court Ruling on Crimea

AU0106083294 Paris AFP in English 0808 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] Kiev, June 1 (AFP)—The Ukrainian Parliament began a debate Wednesday [1 June] on whether to appeal for a court ruling on Crimea's adoption of a secessionist constitution.

A resolution examined by lawmakers called for the establishment of a new Ukrainian Constitutional Court that would be asked to render a judgment on the matter.

The parliament of Crimea voted last month to restore a 1992 constitution that allows for a Crimean citizenship, treaty relations with Kiev and the establishment of a separate militia force.

The Ukrainian parliament said the move amounted to a declaration of independence and gave the local legislature 10 days to reverse its decision.

In Wednesday's resolution, the parliament recognized that Crimea had not changed its position and reiterated that it still considered the adoption of the secessionist constitution to be illegal.

The debate over Crimea's drive for secession came as Ukraine prepared for key presidential elections on June 26, which President Leonid Kravchuk was expected to lose and is trying to postpone.

Ukrainian and Crimean delegations met in Kiev following last month's parliamentary decision and agreed that they would not take any additional measures to exacerbate tensions.

Kiev moved about 20 armored personnel carriers in the main Crimean city of Simferopol in the days following the parliamentary vote but there has been no violence in the region.

Justice Minister Condemns Proposed Crimean 'Secession'

WS3105143794 Kiev KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI in Russian 26 May 94 p 3

[Report by Natalya Ishchenko: "Crimea's Secession From Ukraine Is Impossible"]

[Text] The conflict between the Ukrainian and Crimean governments is currently being manifested by the "shootout" with legislative acts that rescind or ignore decisions by other side. We asked Ukrainian Justice Minister Vasyl Onopenko to make a legal judgment about the quite complex relations between the leadership of Ukraine and the Crimea.

In particular, he said: "The current situation in the Crimea shows that the leadership of that autonomous republic intends to secede from Ukraine. The revision of the Crimean Constitution and a number of edicts by Meshkov countradict Ukraine's legislation and Constitution. The Justice Ministry has repeatedly discussed decisions made by the Crimean government and pointed out their illegal nature. I have frequently stated this on radio and television.

The Crimean parliament has ignored appeals by Ukrainian President L. Kravchuk to reject their poorly considered actions, which are pregnant with dire consequences. The Crimean side has chosen the very dangerous path of confrontation.

In this situation, it is possible to put the issue of making the the Crimean Republic an autonomous oblast on the agenda of the Ukrainian Supreme Council. This would invalidate arguments by the Crimean leadership that such a move would violate the law granting autonomy to the Crimea as well as the law "On Division of Powers..." previously adopted by the Ukrainian parliament. It was the Crimean Supreme Soviet that first rejected the Ukrainian parliament's decisions by voting to revise the Crimean Constitution.

As for the reorganization of the Crimean Justice and Internal Affairs Ministries and the Security Service (that has received so much attention from the Russian mass

media—Natalya Ishchenko), let me say that similar changes are under way throughout Ukraine."

The justice minister particularly emphasized that "in this situation, decisions should be made through negotiations and with due regard to the interests of the entire Ukrainian people, including the Crimea. We need to preserve social stability and reject confrontation. Other solutions to the Crimean problem are impossible—as is the Crimea's secession from Ukraine."

Crimean Official on Threat of Nationalist Gunmen

LD3105192794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1823 GMT 31 May 94

[by ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Simferopol May 31 TASS—Crimean president's aide Aleksey Baksheyev does not exclude the possibility that gunmen of the so-called Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) are already penetrating the peninsula.

"Their threats to form special units for the Crimea are real", the aide told TASS on Tuesday.

According to Baksheyev, neither Ukrainians nor residents of the Crimean Republic are interested in aggravating tensions around the peninsula. People who benefit from these tensions are not numerous but they "stir up trouble immensely", he added.

"Kiev has nothing to wory about", he went on saying. "The Crimea does not look for separation, it just wants to build relations with Ukraine on a treaty basis".

On the contrary, the situation will be destabilized if President Kravchuk imposes his direct rule on Crimea, Baksheyev stressed.

350 Ukrainian Guards Moved to Sevastopol in May

LD3105140394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1315 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Moscow May 31 TASS—A total of 350 guards of a separate battalion of the Ukrainian national guards were shifted to Sevastopol between May 17 and 27. The battalion with motorised equipment is stationed on the grounds of an air defence unit of the Ukrainian Defence Ministry, the public relations centre of the Sevastopol Militia Department reports on Tuesday.

The report notes that Lieutenant-Colonel Igor Kurovskyy, commander of the guards unit stationed in Sevastopol, said that a decision on deploying such subunits in all the Ukrainian regional centres was taken by President Leonid Kravchuk in 1993.

He noted that the main tasks of guardsmen are to protect the Ukrainian constitutional system and to help border troops in detaining border transgressors.

In the near future, guardsmen intend to participate in measures to protect law and order, which were planned by the Sevastopol Militia Department.

Protagonists in Dispute Over Crimea MVD Status Cited

PM0106090994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 May 94 p 1

[Aleksandr Ryabushev report: "Sea Warm in Crimea. Will Relations Warm?"]

[Text] Simferopol—"There will be no war in the Crimea," our correspondent was told yesterday by Colonel General of the Militia Valentin Nedrigaylo, Ukrainian deputy minister of internal affairs. "We will do everything to ensure fulfillment on the peninsula of the Ukrainian presidential edict on the transformation of the Crimean MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] into a Ukrainian MVD Main Administration."

For two weeks now Nedrigaylo has been in the Ukrainian mission in Simferopol guarded by national guardsmen and trying to achieve the resignation of General Kuznetsov, who was appointed by the Crimean Supreme Council as the republic's minister of internal affairs.

"Nobody agreed his candidacy with us," Nedrigaylo said. "Kuznetsov cannot be a minister since the Crimean MVD no longer exists. He has never worked at law-enforcement organs and has not taken the militia oath of allegiance to Ukraine. We will not be paying him or his nonexistent minister. Consequently, our deputy minister Colonel Chernyshov should head the Main Administration for the Crimea at the decision of the Ukrainian MVD. The size of the militia in Ukraine is currently larger than the size of the Defense Ministry. We could have removed Kuznetsov by force long ago and made the Crimean militia carry out the Ukrainian president's edict. But we do not need bloodshed."

Across the road, guarded by the "Berkut" Crimean Special-Purpose Militia Unit, stand people loyal to their disgraced general guarding staffers from the former Crimean MVD.

"Leonid Kravchuk's actions are illegal," Valeriy Kuznetsov complained. "He has broken the law ratified two years ago by the Ukrainian and Crimean parliaments on the demarcation of powers between Kiev and Simferopol. Under the Crimean Constitution I was appointed a minister in the republic's Supreme Council, and only the Supreme Council and President Yuriy Meshkov can remove me. As for my pay, I do not need any—my Afghan pension suffices. Moreover, the Crimean militia has now begun to be financed out of the Simferopol rather than Kiev budget."

Each of these generals now has his own version of the truth. Their own concepts of honor and duty, their own treasury, their own security, and their own troops. And

the hardest task for them is to prevent gunfire, which could lead to a conflict with unpredictable consequences. In order to resolve this situation Simferopol and Kiev are impatiently waiting for the next round of talks between the Ukrainian and Crimean parliaments. There is relative calm on the streets of Simferopol. But at Yalta, on the southern coast, the sanatoriums are still empty and a bucket of cherries costs the equivalent of 4,000 rubles. Bread is half the price it is in Kiev and a quarter of the Moscow price. For the first time the price of fuel has gone down, and the station tanks are full of Russian solar oil. If you have rubles you can feel good and relax in the Crimea. The sea is warm. Is it not time for a warming of the relationship between the politicians of Ukraine, Russia, and Crimea?

Crimean Leaders Believe Government Crisis Looming

LD3105131794 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Deputies of the Crimean parliament were faced today by the same question as at previous sittings—the question of the republican Cabinet of Ministers. Roman Babayan reports from Simferopol:

[Babayan] The fact is that almost all of last week the deputies, together with Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov and Deputy Prime Minister Yevgeniy Saburov, discussed the nominations for future republican ministers. But they failed to reach any decisions. Each side gives their own explanation of this.

Deputy Prime Minister Yevgeniy Saburov believes that the deputies are being obstinate over the issue of approving the Cabinet of Ministers because the parliamentarians do not want to have a pro-presidential government in the Crimea. Yevgeniy Saburov noted that in the very near future deputies of the Crimean parliament will try to kick out Yuriy Meshkov. According to Saburov, there is a situation developing today in the Crimea which is like the September-October 1993 Moscow situation.

President Yuriy Meshkov is not as categorical as the Crimean deputy prime minister. However, after the parliament again refused to approve the composition of the Cabinet of Ministers, he also stated that the Crimea is on the verge of a third government crisis.

As for the parliamentarians themselves, they explain that they are taking these actions because the people put forward for nomination are incompetent.

Whatever the reasons, as a result the Crimea still does not have a government, and in consequence starting the process of bringing the Crimean economy out of the bad situation in which it is at present is being postponed indefinitely.

Article Claims Saburov Team Living Through 'Last Days'

WS3105124494 Lvov POST-POSTUP in Ukrainian 19-25 May 94 p 3

[Report by Volodymyr Prytula: "Nobody in Crimea Would Bet a Penny on Yevhen Saburov"]

[Text] Though the new Crimean power is willing to keep all its intrigues and conflicts a secret, echoes of palace rivalries are spreading across the Crimea and stirring the Crimean residents who are falling asleep due to an inert political life. These rumors claim that the top officials from the Crimean Government—President Yuriy Meshkov and Vice Prime Minister Yevgeniy Saburov, who comes from Moscow—are at odds and a new government will be soon established in the Crimea.

Moscow economist Yevgeniy Saburov, who was not recognized in his own state, came to the Crimea at the recommendation of Sergey Stankevich, a friend of Yuriy Meshkov. However, local observers believe that Yuriy Meshkov chose Stankevich for his friend only because he needed to create his own democratic image. Meshkov also chose Saburov because the latter was born in Yalta. When Saburov began working as prime minister, he felt a strong opposition on the side of Meshkov's entourage; especially, on the side of Valeriy Grishenkov who enviously and watchfully protected the Crimean president from a "harmful" influence from the vice prime minister. In addition, Yevgeniy Saburov has repeatedly declared his loyalty to Kiev and stated that despite his nationality, he is against the reconsideration of border issues.

Given any opportunity, this Moscow expert demonstrated his willingness to promote reforms. On the eve of the elections, according to his reformer's inclinations, Yevgeniy Saburov abolished state subsidies on bread and drafted a resolution, to be signed by the Crimean president, to introduce a single legal tender—the karbovanets—on the territory of the Crimea. This, however, does not match the president's election promises regarding the immediate introduction of rubles into circulation on the peninsula. Rivalry and secret conflicts between the Saburov team and the president's entourage, headed by Viktor Grishenkov, a former KGB officer, ended by breaking up the office and the dismissal of almost all of its officers. Saburov's victory was absolute: Moscow resident Viktor Minin was nominated to the post of minister for state service—responsible for the government's and president's offices—who, when meeting with journalists, declared that his primary task is to be a mediator between Meshkov and Saburov and smooth their conflicts. The fact that Meshkov abolished the resolution, which had already been signed by Saburov—regarding the increase in prices for bread and cereal products—signals that these contradictions are rather serious. Saburov has harshly reacted to this presidential move: "Despite whatever political motives populism is triggered by, it will bring no good."

Meanwhile, Yuriy Meshkov tolerates Yevgeniy Saburov because he needs him. However, the Crimean leader feels more comfortable when he meets and discusses various issues with Oleg Rumyantsev, former Russian people's deputy and head of the constitutional commission of the Russian Federation, who promised to draft a concept on the state and legal building in the Crimea. Commenting on these Meshkov contacts, Yevgeniy Saburov said enviously to journalists that Oleg Rumyantsev does not represent anything as a politician and nobody takes him seriously in Moscow. Local observers have concluded that Russian advisers to the Crimean president decided to move their Moscow conflicts—between liberals (Saburov) and national-patriots (Rumyantsev)—to the Crimea.

However, despite the disparity in positions of Saburov and Meshkov, despite the loyalty of the Crimean vice prime minister to official Kiev, which was publicly declared by him, we should not make him such a devoted Ukrainophile. Simply put, he is much smarter than Meshkov, Rumyantsev, and Grishenkov taken together. Currently, the Crimea is in the epicenter of battles which are being conducted by Russian clans to gain influence over the peninsula and the key goal of Saburov is to provide for the economic expansion and political administration of his clan (Luzhkov—Shokhin—Stankevich). This goal demands, first of all, that political stability be introduced in this autonomous republic. The fact that Meshkov does not understand this causes the differences between him and his deputy prime minister. Rumors regarding the rapid end of these contradictions are being spread in Simferopol. It seems to me that the half-Moscow team of Yevgeniy Saburov is living through their last days. First of all, this is due to the fact that anti-Saburov sentiments prevail among the members of the ruling "Russia" faction. So, who will change Saburov? Will this be Rumyantsev or Baburin? Or Zhirinovskiy? At any rate, we have many such persons here with us.

Crimean 'Shadow' Parliament's Appeal to Kiev

LD3105213294 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] A totalitarian dictatorship is emerging in Crimea, built on the basis of open Russian chauvinism. The newly-elected Supreme Council of Crimea and the autonomous republic's president, Yuriy Meshkov, have embarked on an unmasked course towards Crimea's separation from Ukraine. Thus states an appeal to the president and Supreme Council of Ukraine by Crimea's shadow parliament, the Civic Congress of Crimea, formed to consolidate progressive pro-Ukrainian democratic forces on the peninsula.

The pro-Russian chauvinists and their media, the document stresses, are trying to convince people that Kiev is responsible for all of Crimea's troubles, and that Ukraine is putting brakes on the development of the autonomous republic's economy. Rumors are constantly spread about accelerated militarization of the peninsula. This campaign has already reached its goal: Fear is common among Crimean residents and households are getting involved in interethnic clashes.

The shadow parliament, the Civic Congress of Crimea, demands that the Supreme Council of Crimea should be dissolved, the republic's presidency abolished, and direct presidential rule imposed here. The demands include urgent and fair settlement of the Black Sea Fleet problems, withdrawal of Russian ships from Ukraine, prevention of the lease of Ukrainian territories to foreign military bases, and recognition of the powers of the majles as a body representing the interests of the entire Crimean-Tatar people.

Crimean Official Mocks 'Opposition Supreme Soviet'

LD0106120694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0939 GMT 1 Jun 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Lev Ryabchikov]

[Text] Simferopol, 1 Jun (ITAR-TASS)—"I have no idea who belongs to this opposition Supreme Soviet." This is how Viktor Mezhak, deputy chairman of the Crimean Supreme Soviet, commented on the statement by supporters of the deautonomization of the Crimea, who call themselves the "Crimean Opposition Supreme Soviet", which was broadcast Tuesday. He said there is nothing new in such statements. "Some Ukrainian public organizations have previously made demands for the dissolution of the Crimean parliament and for the introduction of presidential rule."

"It is incomprehensible," Viktor Mezhak said, "why, broadcasting this information, journalists were not interested in who created this 'opposition Supreme Soviet', who gave it the power to come out with a statement in the name of the Crimeans? I think this was done in order to whip up passions around the Crimea just a bit more."

Stressing the desire of the Crimean people's elected representatives to tackle all the problems around the negotiating table with their counterparts from Kiev, Viktor Mezhak said: "We expect the Ukrainian parliamentarians to continue the dialogue on settling our relations. We are counting that they will come to the Crimea this Friday."

Chairmen of Supreme Council Commissions Approved

LD3105165194 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1420 GMT 31 May 94

[Excerpt] Kiev, 31 May—At the morning session of Ukraine's Supreme Council, deputies approved the following list of chairmen of the parliament's permanent commissions proposed by Chairman Oleksandr Moroz:

1. Commission for Legal Policy, Judicial and Legal Reform, and Law of Procedure: Oleksandr Steshenko, Lugansk oblast, Communist Party of Ukraine [CPU].

2. Commission for State-Building, Council Activities, and Self-Government: Volodymyr Stretovych, Vinnitsa oblast, Agrarians.

3. Commission for Social Policy and Labor: Yuriy Buzduhan, Chernovtsy oblast, independent.

4. Commission for Health, Mother and Child Care: Yuriy Spizhenko, Zhitomir oblast, Minister of Health, "Center".

5. Commission for Youth, Sport, and Tourism Affairs: Oleksandr Yakovenko, Donetsk oblast, CPU

6. Commission for Science and Education: Volodymyr Starishko, Sumy oblast, inter-regional deputy group.

7. Commission for Culture and Spirituality: Mykhaylo Kosiv, Lvov oblast, People's movement of Ukraine [Rukh].

8. Commission for Economic Policy and Management of National Economy: Oleh Taranov, Kharkov, leader of "Unity" group.

9. Commission for Budget Affairs: Volodymyr Shcherban, Donetsk oblast, interregional deputy group.

10. Commission for Financial Affairs and Banking: Volodymyr Suslov, Kharkov oblast, adviser to prime minister, Agrarians.

11. Commission for Basic Industries and Socioeconomic Development of the Regions: Valeriy Cherep, Sumy oblast, "Center".

12. Commission for the Fuel and Energy Complex, Transport and Communications: Oleksandr Kozhushko, Donetsk oblast, CPU.

13. Commission for the Agroindustrial Complex, Land Resources, and Socioeconomic Development of the Countryside: Anatoliy Danylenko, Kiev oblast, Agrarians.

14. Commission for Foreign Affairs and CIS Relations: Borys Oliynyk, Zaporozhye oblast, CPU.

15. Commission for Environment Policy: vacant.

16. Commission for Chernobyl Disaster Issues: Volodymyr Yatsenko, Zhitomir oblast, CPU.

17. Commission for Nuclear Policy and Nuclear Safety: Mykhaylo Pavlovskyy, Khmelnitskiy oblast, "Statehood".

18. Commission for Legality and Law and Order: Leonid Borodych, Dnepropetrovsk oblast, "Unity".

19. Commission for Measures against Organized Crime and Corruption: Hryhoriy Omelchenko, Poltava, "Reforms".

20. Commission for Defence and State Security: Volodymyr Mukhin, Kharkov, leader of the Socialists group.

21. Commission for Procedure, Deputy Ethics, and Safeguards of Deputy Activities: Petro Sheyko, Chernigov oblast, "Center".

22. Commission for Legislative Safeguards of Freedom of Speech and Mass Media: Viktor Ponedilko, Zaporozhye oblast, CPU.

23. Commission for Human Rights, Ethnic Minorities, and Interethnic Relations: Volodymyr Butkevych, Vinnitsa oblast, "Center".

Prior to the voting, deputy for Kiev Yuriy Kostenko of the Rukh group withdrew his nomination for chairman of the Commission for Environment Policy, saying that he had been working on the formation of the Commission for Nuclear Policy and Nuclear Safety instead. However, Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz pointed out that this post is to be filled by a representative of either the "Reforms" or "Statehood" groups. [passage omitted]

Former Communist Official Elected First Deputy Speaker

AU3105163194 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 28 May 94 p 2

["Ukraine's Supreme Council Decree on the Election of First Deputy Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council" issued on 25 May; and biographical information on the newly elected first deputy chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council]

[Text] Ukraine's Supreme Council decrees as follows:

To elect [as published] Oleksandr Mykolayovych Tkachenko, Ukraine's people's deputy, as first deputy chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council.

O. Moroz, Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council
Kiev, 25 May 1994

First Deputy Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council Oleksandr Mykolayovych Tkachenko

Oleksandr Mykolayovych Tkachenko was born on 7 March 1939 in the town of Shpola in Cherkasy Oblast. He advanced in his career from metal worker at a machine and tractor station to Ukraine's minister of agriculture. He was elected as secretary of Komsomol [Young Communist League] rayon committee, secretary and first secretary of the [Communist] party rayon committee, and chairman of the executive committee of the Ternopil Oblast Council of People's Deputies. He was first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of

the Ukrainian SSR. Recently, he headed the agro-industrial association "Land and People."

He is a member of Ukraine's Peasant Party and Ukraine's people's deputy of three convocations.

O. Tkachenko is married. His wife is an economist. He has a grown-up daughter.

Durdynets Appointed Deputy Chairman of Crime-Fighting Body

AU3105122594 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 27 May 94 p 1

["Ukrainian Presidential Edict on First Deputy Chairman of the Coordination Committee for Combating Corruption and Organized Crime Subordinated to the Ukrainian President" issued in Kiev on 25 May]

[Text] 1. To appoint Vasyl Vasylyovych Durdynets as first deputy chairman of the Coordination Committee for Combating Corruption and Organized Crime Subordinated to the Ukrainian president.

2. The edict becomes effective on the day of its signing.

Ukraine's President L. Kravchuk
Kiev, 25 May 1994

Presidential Candidate Plyushch: Tough Decisions Needed

LD3105152694 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Dnepropetrovsk [no date as received]—Ivan Plyushch, a candidate for the post of president of Ukraine, noted at a news conference yesterday that "Ukraine needs tough decisions now in order not to resort to brutal ones tomorrow." In his opinion, the main shortcoming in the state system is the dichotomy between executive and legislative authorities. One should either grant the necessary powers to the prime minister, or the president should head the Cabinet of Ministers, Ivan Plyushch said. He is inclined to the second option.

Regarding the current composition of the Supreme Council, the former Speaker observed that he does not find it significantly different from the previous one. True, he said, new tendencies have appeared in the parliament's work, and if they are allowed to develop, the Supreme Council could turn into an administrative body. "Something like the central committee, but a worse version," Ivan Plyushch explained, and added that "the shift to the left" in society and parliament is not a terrible thing. He believes that one should not fear communists, but Bolsheviks, whose aim is first to destroy, and only then to build. With regard to Ukraine's economy, the former Speaker noted, it now needs liberalization and evolutionary reforms.

Navy Press Center Issues Statement on Sevastopol

MK0106100094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 3

[Unattributed report under the "NEGA Reports: "Crimea"]

[Text] A Ukrainian Navy press center statement that has been made public has voiced concern over the situation in Sevastopol. The statement says that a reinforced tank battalion and an antiaircraft battalion will soon be withdrawn from the strength and composition of the Black Sea Fleet forward defense combined unit and sent to Sevastopol to become part of the Black Sea Fleet marine brigade. Being formed at the present time are command structures for these subunits, some of whose officers have already moved to Sevastopol for permanent residence.

It is characteristic, the statement says, that the Black Sea Fleet command should make a decision to pull the attack forces into Sevastopol with no prior notification to corresponding echelons or the necessary coordination. At the same time, the Black Sea Fleet command does not tire of stating its intention to stabilize the situation, and urges political figures "to do everything possible to resolve the questions under debate in a politically amicable way." The Ukrainian Navy press center statement voices bewilderment and alarm over the fact that "it has long been a practice with the Black Sea Fleet, which is subordinated to the presidents of Ukraine and Russia as before, to carry out a redeployment of forces, to have large groups of ships put out to sea."

The Ukrainian Navy press center is authorized to make a resolute protest against the unilateral actions by the Black Sea Fleet command which hinder stabilization of the situation in Sevastopol and the Crimean region and stand in the way of developing normal friendly relations between Ukraine and Russia. The Navy command renews its readiness to solve the existing problems in a civilized way and counts on the prudence of the Black Sea Fleet command, and of all on whom peace and quiet on Crimean soil depend in some way or another.

Black Sea Fleet Makes Ukraine Close Naval Radar in Odessa

LD3105145894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1436 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoly Kholodyuk]

[Text] Sevastopol May 31 TASS—The naval radar system near the Ukrainian Black Sea Port of Odessa will cease to operate Wednesday as the Black Sea Fleet command refused to share it with Ukrainian Navy authorities.

Spokesman for the Ukrainian Navy Oleg Chubuk told TASS on Tuesday that the radar stops functioning because "the Black Sea Fleet has not expressed readiness to cooperate with the Ukrainian Navy in running the

facility and exchanging data monitored in the northwestern part of the Black Sea".

According to the source, the fleet command has twice ignored Ukrainian messages requesting such cooperation.

The Black Sea Fleet operates a network of radars called "Mars", one of which is located near Odessa.

Tensions between the Ukrainian and Black Sea Navies flared up last month when radar equipment was transferred from Odessa to the fleet's main base in Sevastopol without Ukrainian consent.

Commission Estimates Damage From Black Sea Fleet Pollution

LD3105220394 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1545 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Kiev—Valeriy Sirenko, deputy head of the main ecological inspectorate at Ukraine's Environmental Protection Ministry, told a UNIAN correspondent on 31 May that the joint commission of the Environmental Protection Ministry, the Defense Ministry, the State Oil and Gas Committee, the State Housing Services Committee, and the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine representatives—the commission of which he is in charge—completed preliminary calculations with regard to expenditures required to restore the environment damaged as a result of activity by the Black Sea Fleet. The sum of this damage is around 19.6 billion dollars.

An approximate 4 billion dollars is needed to resolve the ecological problems of Sevastopol alone, with 108 million dollars required specifically to regenerate 2,016 hectares of land in places where Black Sea Fleet units and facilities are deployed and to decontaminate the soil saturated with petroleum products.

Account should also be taken of expenditures required for cleansing the harbors to remove oil and other harmful substances that are constantly being dumped into the sea and to improve the health of the population that is being affected by the ecological calamity.

Sirenko said: "The state of the environment around Sevastopol is infernal. Harbors are polluted with trash and oil. The fleet's oil collectors are defunct. The command of the Russian Black Sea Fleet, however, has failed to find time to meet Ukraine's Environmental Protection Ministry commission."

Technical Aid From UN Agencies Detailed

WS0106064394 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 1945 GMT 30 May 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 22, 23-29 May 94]

[Text] As a result of an international conference, which Kiev hosted on May 23 through 25, the Agency for International Cooperation and Investments together with the UN Office in Ukraine drafted national strategies for technical aid's applications, which has been increasingly flowing to Ukraine from UN specialized institutions and agencies.

UN experts are to be broadly involved in scrutinizing Ukraine's technical aid requirements under the thus drafted strategies, as well as in assessment of further cooperation prospects.

A number of technical aid projects are reported to have been drafted by UN, which might be reduced to basically two types, to wit, immediate capital investment and technical cooperation designed to improve and upgrade Ukrainian experts' professional skills.

The UN-sponsored "Systemic Reforms" project envisages aiding Ukraine in development of a national strategic-scope reform program based on comprehensive studies of Ukraine's domestic prices and markets.

The "Human Resource Development" program focuses on Ukraine's human resource evaluation and social welfare to protect the society's underprivileged strata. It also covers health care, education, R&D support, copyright and intellectual property rights' protection in Ukraine.

The "Environment, power industry and resource management" program encompasses the following areas:

- nuclear safety policies;
- the Chernobyl NPP's shut-down;
- routine nuclear safety;
- radiation monitoring and protection;
- Chernobyl victims' rehabilitation;
- Ukraine's power industry and fuel extraction.

The latter area involves more specialized subprojects including "Development of national power industry strategies", "Systemic approaches to environmental effect appraisal", "Power industry management", "Application of power-saving technologies", "Conversion of power industry to coal- and gas-fired plants".

The program's environmental section involves comprehensive ecological studies of the Dnieper River's basin and the Sea of Azov.

The "sector reforms" project provides for aiding Ukraine in its infrastructure's modernization, industries' reorientation toward market demands.

According to Inna Grigoyeva, Ukraine's chief expert with the National Center for International Technical Aid Application, the amount of UN financing has not been defined yet.

The Agency for International Cooperation and Investments, which was instituted in September 1993, is in charge of coordinating the West's technical aid to Ukraine. It has its representations in Ukrainian regions and abroad.

In accordance with the Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada's resolution, it is also in charge of implementation of the state program for foreign capital investment attraction, and of registration of foreign investments in the state register of foreign investments involving the EU and other international organisations.

The Agency's chairman is Vice-Premier Valentin Landik.

Statistics on Foreign Trade for 1st Quarter

WS3105125894 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 1945 GMT 30 May 94

["Ukraine's Foreign Economic Relations in 1994's First Quarter" based on Ukrainian Statistics Ministry press release dated May 16, 1994; from the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 22, 23-29 May 94]

[Text] Commodity exports and imports, presented in the table below, on FOB [expansion unknown] conditions are based on IMF's procedures for commodities' nations of origin and destination and settling principles proceeding from contracts' currencies and NBU's [National Bank of Ukraine] official currency exchange rates.

The below stated amounts of trade turn-over with Ukraine's major trading partners take into account exports and imports of give-and-take raw materials and key assets' repair

Nations	Commodities, mln. USD		Services, ths USD	
	exports	imports	exports	imports
Total	2,071.6	2,617.9	143,749.7	30,873.5
1. Former union nations	1,254.1	1,933.5	66,571.4	5,984.6
Russia	0.840.7	1,270.0	62,354.0	5,163.1
Azerbaijan	29.7	7.8	427.7	5.2
Belarus	100.9	235.3	340.7	290.2
Armenia	1.5	0.2	37.7	5.5
Georgia	2.9	0.7	90.3	15.3
Kazakhstan	40.6	55.1	610.0	203.5
Kyrgyzstan	4.1	7.3	0.5	100.9
Moldova	116.1	32.3	481.6	123.2
Tajikistan	1.0	1.1	3.0	3.2
Turkmenistan	20.9	73.0	435.5	5.6
Uzbekistan	15.9	12.7	657.5	23.7
Latvia	11.7	35.3	48.3	15.1
Lithuania	63.7	100.1	1,012.9	22.1
Estonia	4.4	2.7	71.3	6.2
2. Other nations	817.5	648.4	77,178.3	24,888.9
Austria	46.2	13.6	3,328.3	259.4
Bulgaria	29.4	16.8	2,303.8	2,026.8
Great Britain	11.1	15.3	1,572.8	270.3
Greece	5.1	5.5	6,046.7	902.0
India	7.0	10.7	4,580.9	468.3
Italy	89.2	20.4	3,339.3	165.9
China	61.1	3.8	5,615.2	4.1
Liechtenstein	14.0	37.9	-	-
Germany	38.4	153.8	2,502.7	840.5
Poland	32.9	72.2	2,493.8	423.3
Slovakia	26.6	20.9	178.2	139.5
USA	33.9	44.5	2,361.0	724.4
Hungary	29.6	13.7	1,658.1	378.5
France	16.0	17.9	896.9	617.1
Czech Republic	58.3	72.5	154.3	152.7
Switzerland	42.5	19.2	715.1	27.7
Sweden	1.1	39.9	88.5	46.9

Ukraine maintained trade relations with 107 nations the world over.

State Oil Official on Purchase of Natural Gas

WS3105125994 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 1945 GMT 30 May 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 22 , 23-29 May 94]

[Text] In December 1993, Ukraine had to pay 70 to 80 dollars for each 1,000 cu. m. of natural gas to Russia's suppliers.

As Oleg Akhrimenko, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Oil and Gas, disclosed in an interview to UKRINFORM, the most recent agreement with the Russian suppliers provides for the natural gas purchasing price of 50 dollars per 1,000 cu. m. set for Ukraine.

According to Mr. Akhrimenko, this price reduction was made possible as a result of Ukraine's declared intention to grant the state Committee and eventually the Ukrneftegaz National Holding Joint-Stock Company the monopoly authority to purchase Russian natural gas, instead of numerous government-owned and privately-run enterprises.

As Yevgeniy Sukhin, first deputy chairman of the State Committee for oil and gas and Ukrneftegaz's newly appointed president, maintains, Russia's Gazprom,

which is the virtual monopolist of Russian fuel exports, can be offset and counterbalanced by only a replica monopolist.

Mr. Sukhin, who was appointed to head Ukrneftegaz by President Kravchuk's decree of May 14, 1994, asserts that the new suprastructure's other strength will be in monopolizing Ukraine's transit piping services rendered to the Russian monopolist. In this way, as Mr. Sukhin maintains, Ukraine will be able to influence Russia's fuel pricing policies toward Ukraine posing as a Russian fuel consumer.

In this reduced transit charge-decreased gas purchasing price game Ukraine is reported to have won as much as 350 million dollars from Russia.

Though Mr. Sukhin refused to specify Ukraine's transit charge, he noted that it did not exceed 1 USD per 1,000 cu. m. per km. of pipe-lines. However, an agreement is known to have been reached between the two parties setting the transit charge at 0.6 USD.

Ukrneftegaz's monopoly is supposed to extend to Ukraine's domestic fuel market. Posing as such, it will dictate domestic fuel prices; though, as Mr. Sukhin asserts, the state, through its Anti-Monopoly Committee, will rigidly control the National Holding Joint-Stock Company and protect consumers' rights. Specific mechanisms to implement this scheme are currently drafted and adjusted by authorized ministerial and departmental bodies, in accordance with President Kravchuk's decree of May 11, 1994 "On Holding Companies, which are Set Up in the Process of Corporatization and Privatization" (see UBN no. 20/1994).

Ukrneftegaz's rigid scheme for fuel supply and transit piping settling may place many Ukrainian fuel and power-consuming enterprises on the brink of shut-down, which as the Ukrainian monopoly proponents maintain, will facilitate and accelerate Ukraine's real transition to genuine market economic relations. However, its opponents warn that the scheme can be effective only under a stabilized monetary-crediting system, which is not the case with Ukraine, as well as normalized domestic settling.

Until Ukrneftegaz's scope of competence has been determined, which in principle is a natural monopolist, one is left to wonder what the State's control over it will look like, if any, in influencing its pricing policies. The issue at stake may prove vital for many Ukrainian industries' viability.

Russia's experience in forming natural monopolists and futility of its anti-monopoly bodies' attempts to control commodity and service pricing should teach Ukraine a good lesson, though. Russia's Mintopenergo monopolist has been frustrating the Russian government's attempts to influence domestic pricing policies, so far.

It would not be altogether impertinent to remind the attentive reader that corporatization of the Ukrainian gas and oil complex has followed the Russian pattern, replicating it pretty closely, though with about a six-month time lag, which makes Ukraine's task of prognosticating the process's likely consequences easy enough. On the other hand, as analysts maintain, Ukraine's and Russia's replica structures, which emerged from the former USSR's integral system, may show, under certain conditions, their propensity to merge.

The former USSR's gas and petroleum infrastructural legacy has not been divided yet between Russia and Ukraine. Leading the race after structural reorganisation Russia will obviously attempt to exploit its advantage and acquire a sizable part of facilities, which are located on Ukraine's territory, making Ukraine cede them by way of extinguishing its enormous fuel debt to Russia. The Russian side believes that Ukraine's 1 billion USD debt to it entitles the Russians to claim controlling parcels of stocks in Ukrneftegaz's affiliates. As of this very day and date, Ukrneftegaz's authorized capital has not been determined.

According to Mr. Sukhin, independent foreign experts estimate Ukrneftegaz's aggregate property at roughly 110 billion dollars. Guided by the tentative sum, the National Holding Joint-Stock Company's president stated the Ukrainian party's readiness to sell stocks to Russia by way of the debt's repayment, but not cede proprietorial rights to the Russian side.

The Ukrainian official ruled out the controlling parcel saying, Russia's maximal share in the stocks would not exceed 2 per cent. In the meantime, the Russian party has been rather vigorously pushing its cause. As it may be the case, Russia's actions could be provoked by the Ukrainian State Property Fund's position, which estimated Ukrneftegaz's aggregate property at a much smaller figure than the independent foreign experts did.

As Ukrneftegaz's top-placed officers say, the disputable issue will become much clearer, when the National Holding Joint-Stock Company's authorized capital and foundation documents have been approved together with its scope of competence.

Cooperation in Rocket Manufacturing Detailed

WS3105133694 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 1945 GMT 30 May 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 22, 23-29 May 94]

[Text] The French Aerospaciale's cooperation with Ukrainian space rocketry manufacturers (the giant Yuzhny MIC [military industrial complex] works and Yuzhnoe designers in Dnepropetrovsk) started last year and involved designing and manufacture of small rockets and the French Arian-5 rocket.

As of today, four contracts were signed by the Ukrainian and French partners, which provide for the Yuzhnoe designers' involvement in the following projects:

- utilization of SS-24 missiles' oxygen tanks as kerosene and liquid oxygen containers to replace heptyl and amyl. A contract to this effect embraces a seven-month period and is estimated at 100,000 FF;

- utilization of SS-24 missiles and their components for manufacture of new small rockets intended for placing satellites on low orbits launched from the French space center in Guiana. The 300,000 FF contract's term may stretch from six to twelve months depending on Aerospaciale's response to the Yuzhnoe designers' draft documentation;

- utilization of a solid propellant 30t.-thrust engine as the second-stage booster for small rockets. The 120,000 FF contract's term is three months;

- utilization of SS-24 components as Arian-5 boosters (200,000 FF).

The Ukrainian party is reported to have arranged all export control formalities.

The Yuzhnoe designers' technologies for blasting welding are the object of negotiations underway with a view of contract signing.

The Yuzhnoe-Aerospaciale duet is reported as intending to secure the French government's financing of small rocket manufacture designed to lift commercial payloads.

According to Andrei Zhalko-Titarenko, deputy director-general of the Ukrainian National Space Agency, Ukraine's skilled and cheap labor makes cooperation attractive and lucrative in the eyes of French space researchers.

Belarus

Official Presidential Candidates Registered

MK0106081094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Jun 94 p 1

[Valentin Zhdanko report from Minsk: "Vyacheslav Kebich Has Lost His Main Rival"]

[Text] On 31 May the Central Election Commission registered the following as Belorussia's [Belarus] official presidential candidates: Premier Vyacheslaw Kebich, ex-speaker Stanislaw Shushkevich, Belorussian National Front leader Zenon Poznyak, deputy Aleksandr Lukashenko, Communist Party leader Vasiliy Novikov, and kolkhoz chairman Aleksandr Dubko.

Gennadiy Karpenko, leader of the Party of National Accord, who was considered one of Kebich's main contenders in the elections, did not make it into the candidates' list. Karpenko had polled the required number of signatures but at the last moment 16 deputies unexpectedly recalled their signatures. Yesterday, without waiting for a Central Election Commission decision, Gennadiy Karpenko withdrew his candidacy.

Democratic Radio Programs, Papers Suspended

WS3105145994 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1500 GMT 30 May 94

[Text] The Belarusian radio programs "Belaruskaya Maladzyozhnaya" [Belarusian Youth] and "Krynitsa" [Spring] have been suspended since 28 May. The publishing house "Belarusian Printing House" refuses to print the newspaper SVABODA. Media representatives issued declarations on the issues at a press conference held on 30 May. In particular, the declarations stated that employees of both radio programs were confronted with the fact that, as a result of transforming the National State Television and Radio Company into the Television and Radio Committee of the Belarusian Council of Ministers, "Krynitsa" and "Belaruskaya Maladzyozhnaya" are merged—or virtually closed—and will be replaced by the Main Broadcasting Editorial Office to be established of the Second Radio Channel.

As a matter of fact, this transformation can be seen as a move to get rid of politically inconvenient journalists who disseminate objective information. As is known, "Belaruskaya Maladzyozhnaya" was planning a feature a live program on 28 May with Belarusian National Bank Chairman Stanislaw Bahdankevich who is against the populist decision to merge Belarusian and Russian monetary units, a move that has been greeted with mixed opinion.

The employees of the two radio programs consider the crackdown politically motivated and an infringement of freedom, which places the possibility of holding democratic elections in Belarus in doubt. The program calls on the international community, law-enforcement agencies, media, and society to do their best to stop the violence against democratic mass media and freedom of speech.

A declaration was also issued by the opposition Belarusian Popular Front deputies. It said that the "offensive against democratic journalists and the independent press is not casual—the Cabinet of Ministers and the Supreme Soviet, subordinate to it, seek to have the elections held in the atmosphere of misinformation. The radio and television leadership plans to offer inconvenient hours for democratic candidates for president. Meanwhile, all radio and television information programs and all government newspapers are jammed with propaganda about Prime Minister Vyachaslav Kebich." The deputies call on the Belarusian public and the international community to pay attention to the crackdown on the democratic press and other mass media as well as to the restoration of totalitarianism in Belarus. They demand that publication of newspapers VYBAR, NAVINY BNF, and SVABODA as well as the broadcasting of radio programs "Belaruskaya Maladzyozhnaya" and "Krynitsa" be immediately resumed.

Authorities Seen Cracking Down on Critical Media

PM3105151594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 May 94 p 2

[Aleksandr Starikevich report: "Belorussian Authorities Review Their Attitude to Press"]

[Text] Minsk—The scenario of the presidential elections scripted by the ideologues of the Belorussian [Belarusian] "party in power" ["Partiya vlasti"] is now being played out. The government has dealt the first blow against the mass media.

The latest statement by Vladimir Zametalin, the Belorussian prime minster's press secretary, was wholly devoted to the biggest circulation opposition newspaper SVABODA [Freedom]. IZVESTIYA has managed to secure a xerox of Zametalin's original statement.

"Formally opposed to the development of democratic processes in the republic, nationalistically minded political forces are attempting to raise their public profile through the methods of discrediting the policy of state organs, slandering state leaders, and whipping up hysteria in the period of the campaign to elect the first president of Belorussia [Belarus].... The greatest activity in the creation of conditions of civil confrontation is being displayed by a newspaper with a title clearly at odds with its basic tendency—SVABODA. The newspaper...is continuing to act as the political cutting-edge of national extremism in the republic.... The constant search for unverified, so-called 'compromising' materials against the most constructive, influential, and prestigious people has become the rule for the paper's creative conduct and thematic direction.... Taking into

account numerous requests from citizens...the Government considers it its duty to revise relations with this publication in the interests of consolidating stability in the state...."

The press secretary's statement conveys the atmosphere being created in the republic by the republic authorities on the eve of the elections sufficiently clearly. The powers that be [vlastnyye strktury] are seeking to neutralize anyone belonging to the opposition to the "most constructive and prestigious people" (read—Prime Minsiter Vyacheslav Kebich) for the period of the election campaign.

In the case of SVABODA, they have acted simply. The paper's chief editor Igor Germenchuk told IZVESTIYA's correspondent that the "Belorusskiy dom pechati" publishing house has refused to print, and the Ministry of Communications to circulate, the "awkward" newspaper. At the present time the editors are exploring the possibility of publishing the newspaper outside Belorusssia.

To this it should be added that in the state radio two radio stations have been disbanded: "Belaruskaya maladzezhnaya" ["Belarusian Youth"] and "Krynitsa" ["Source"]. The propaganda apparatus set up by the Belorussian Government does not provide for such "oases of democracy." Journalists have only to wait to see who will be the next victim of the "revision of relations."

Moldova

Dniester Leader Extends State of Emergency

LD3105155094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1504 GMT 31 May 94

[by ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau May 31 TASS—Igor Smirnov, president of the unrecognised Dniester republic, extended on Tuesday, by his decree, the state of emergency in the republic by another month, which was imposed on last January 18.

The document notes that this was done "to strengthen statehood, public security and to control organised crime".

Speaking on Monday evening over local television, Smirnov said that a terrorist act, as a result of which Dniester Prosecutor Boris Luchik was seriously wounded and his wife killed, was another reason to stiffen measures on crime control.

In the opinion of the Dniester leader, some quarters in Moldavia [Moldova] were interested in the prosecutor's assassination and an attempt to destabilise the situation in the Dniester left bank areas (where the Dniester republic is situated).

According to the president, they bring pressure on Tiraspol, including economic one, together with some representatives from the Russian leadership [sentence as received].

The aim of these actions is to force the Dniester leaders to make concessions on the withdrawal of the 14th Russian Army, its property and settlement of the Dniester problem, Smirnov said.

He blamed Moscow and Chisinau for the difficult financial situation in the region.

According to Smirnov, the Russian leadership did not permit to take Dniester coupons, the new currency issued at the Russian mint. This money is very necessary to pay pensions and wages to Dniester citizens.

Smirnov confirmed that the Dniester republic has currency accounts at banks of Austria and other European countries.

Turkish President Arrives on Official Visit

LD0106102994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0858 GMT 1 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidestskiy]

[Text] Chisinau June 6 TASS—Turkish President Suleyman Demirel arrived here for an official 3-day visit today.

He is expected to sign with Moldavian [Moldovan] President Mircea Snegur a treaty on friendship and cooperation between the two states. The two heads of state will also discuss conditions for large Turkish investments in the Moldavian economy, most of which will be used to develop the southern regions, inhabited by Gagauz, an ethnic group of Turkic origin.

The agenda of Demirel's first day in Moldavia includes meetings with President Mircea Snegur and parliament speaker Petr Luchinskiy. The Turkish president is also expected to address Moldavian parliament members. On the next day, together with the Moldavian president, Demirel will visit the southern part of the republic, inhabited mainly by Gagauz. He will be shown several enterprises and farms there. On the last day of the visit Demirel will attend the opening of the Turkish embassy in Moldavia, which will be followed by the signing of Turkish-Moldavian treaty.

"Moldavia and Turkey have every chance to pursue a policy of rapprochement, to promote cooperation, and the current visit will turn a new page in the development of relations between the two countries," Demirel stated. "We back the process of negotiations now under way between the Gagauz population and the Moldovan central administration," he added. "It is intended to make our brothers live in their native land with due respect for the territorial integrity of Moldavia, to give them a legal status, contributing to their development. These negotiations are Moldavia's internal affair. The Gagauz, for

their part, can serve as a solid bridge of friendship between our two countries."

"The treaty of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will give a fresh impetus to bilateral relations and will help overcome the difficulties of the transition period now experienced by Moldova," President Snegur stated today. "Problems linked with the creation of a Black Sea economic cooperation zone will also be discussed during the visit."

Snegur noted the Turkish leadership's balanced and well thought out policy towards separatist tendencies in some regions, which threaten peace. "Proceeding from the fact that the Moldavia top leadership is also confronted with this problem, we move to discuss all the possible ways for its effective settlement. We hope that the granting of a special legal status to populated localities inhabited by the Gagauz population will create a precedent for districts on the left-hand bank of the Dniester river, where the centrifugal tendencies are even stronger. The development of relations of kinship with Turkey will allow the Gagauz population to safeguard and pass on their extremely rich traditions and culture to the rising generation."

Much hope is pinned on the current visit by the head of the Kamrat (Gagauz) administration Viktor Volkov. He said that the Turkish side had assumed a commitment to make investments in the construction of telephone lines and roads, and in the re-equipment of the Gagauz processing industry.

The Turkish president is accompanied by representatives of Turkish legislative bodies, government, business circles, and public organisations.

Demirel Views Moldovan Affairs

LD3105213994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1845 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Turkish President Suleyman Demirel expressed his satisfaction with respect to the negotiations held between Chisinau and Komrat (an administrative center of the non-recognized Gagauz republic). "We support the negotiating process the major aim of which is to ensure that our brothers live in their native land as citizens who respect the territorial integrity of Moldova, and have a juridical status which will help the Gagauz to develop," Demirel declared to the press service of the Moldovan president on the eve of his visit to Chisinau.

At the same time Demirel underlined that he views the negotiations between the Gagauz population and the central administration "as Moldova's internal affair" and hopes that "all issues related to this problem will be solved by means of a constructive dialogue." "We hope that the Gagauz people will become a firm bridge of friendship between Turkey and Moldova," he said.

Demirel expressed hope that "the ways for stabilization which appeared after the nation-wide elections in Moldova will help to solve the republic's economic problems." He also reported that he would be glad to share the Turkish experience with the Moldovan leaders during his scheduled meetings in Chisinau.

Kazakhstan

Kenges Deputy Chairman Comments on Recent Statement

Not Demanding Complete Government Resignation

LD3105161794 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1400 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Marat Ospranov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Kenges, held a news conference today regarding the renowned statement of the parliament adopted last Friday. He told journalists how this document which was first elaborated by an initiating group of deputies, began to reflect—after discussion and serious corrections in the committee—the opinion of the majority of the parliamentarians, although it was a narrow majority.

The journalists asked about various aspects of the work of the new Supreme Kenges, and about deputies' assessment of the specific measures of the government. Answering these questions, the deputy speaker said that the parliament is not going to demand the complete resignation of the government as there are quite a few lively and knowledgeable people. Nevertheless, in his opinion, the Cabinet of Ministers lacks accord and unanimity. People whose stance impedes the progress of economic reform and the implementation of practical and quite common-sense alternative proposals are also working in the government.

Konstantin Kolpakov, personal representative of the president in the parliament, spoke at the news conference, stressing that there is no major discord between the Cabinet of Ministers and the parliament. The main thing is that they strive to achieve a dialogue in order to overcome the economic chaos. As far as the statement of the parliament is concerned, Kolpakov said, it is not quite correct and contains certain exagerrations, but we should hope that the statement will be able to promote the implementation of the market reform.

Calls Statement 'Historical Event'

LD3105234094 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1400 GMT 31 May 94

[Remarks by Marat Ospanov, deputy chairman of Kazakhstan's Supreme Kenges, to an unidentified correspondent in Almaty on 31 May—recorded]

[Text] I think we can call the parliament statement a historical event. For the first ever, such a statement was released by a parliament that was elected by the people. I think this is a very timely statement.

Second, I think that the executive power should work properly for the benefit of the people.

Third, the executive power and our legislative power should go along one common road and find one common language. I think we should be able to work together in the future. In this respect, the statement is absolutely correct. I think we need the impetus to embark on a new road.

Fourth, being a new, professional parliament, we should show the people that we are able to carry out our own policy. We should not comply with circumstances and, by doing so, bring more economic hardship and weaker social protection to our people. We should aim at future changes for the better for the people. All our 177 deputies thought like this. The country will never benefit if we do not unite. Our primary aim is to work for the nation. Our primary aim is to change people's life for the better.

We should help to firm up our national currency. Prices are increasing. We should curb this growth. We should stop irreversible changes in the economy. This is our main concern and nothing else. We are not against the president or against the government. We have no such aims. We believe our motives will be correctly understood.

Comments on Possible Result

LD3105223594 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 31 May 94

[Interview with Marat Ospanov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Kenges, by an unidentified correspondent in Almaty on 31 May—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] In your opinion, what results will follow the adoption of the parliament statement? In particular, how will the government react?

[Ospanov] I participated in the Cabinet of Ministers session yesterday. The prime minister has made correct conclusions. This is a quite normal phenomenon. Maybe it is unusual from the view point of our [word indistinct] committees. The Cabinet of Ministers should aim at establishing contacts with us, and we all should cooperate very closely.

I personally can forecast that everything will be aimed at reaching mutual understanding and constructive cooperation.

[Correspondent] The statement talks about the necessity for a dialogue between all three branches of power. What do you think? How can this dialogue be technically possible?

[Ospanov] First of all, this dialogue should be built on the basis of working contacts during preparation of draft laws.

Government Criticizes Implementation of Economic Policy

LD3105162294 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1400 GMT 31 May 94

[text] The Cabinet of Ministers Presidium session today discussed issues which are important for the reform of our country's economy. In particular, the course of implementation of the governments measures to promote economic policy this year, the concept and program of measures aimed at demonopolizing the national economy were discussed. A heated exchange of opinions took place on what is hindering the resolution of these problems. The lack of flexibility among heads of ministries and departments as well as of the government apparatus was criticized.

It was stressed that in view of the serious state of the country's economic and social sphere it is no longer possible to tolerate such low executive discipline. Draft resolutions on the issues under discussion were returned for elaboration. Deadlines were fixed for this elaboration. The authors were told to display the highest level of professionalism during the preparation of the documents and to eliminate mistakes made in the drafts.

The Cabinet of Ministers Presidium also examined the implementation of intergovernmental agreements on transport and communications with neighboring southern countries.

The sitting was chaired by Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko.

Government Intends To Pursue Stringent Financial Policy

LD3105125994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1102 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Government of Kazakhstan intends to firmly pursue a stringent financial policy and adhere to the budget deficit agreed upon with the International Monetary Fund—no more than 4 percent. Finance Minister Erkeshbai Derbisov said so in an interview with INTERFAX after Monday's session of the Cabinet of Ministers held to consider changes in Kazakhstan's budget for the current year.

Earlier the finance minister said that President Nursultan Nazarbayev's decision to raise the minimal wages to 100 tenges may entail a rise in the budget deficit.

According to estimates, in May inflation in Kazakhstan will reach 26 percent, Derbisov said. In January it ran at 42 percent, in February at 27 pct, in March at 17 percent and in April at 31 percent.

Kyrgyzstan

Akayev Signs Cooperation Agreement With EU in Brussels

LD0106001194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1635 GMT 31 May 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mineyev]

[Excerpts] Brussels, 31 May—[passage omitted] Having arrived in Brussels on Tuesday morning [Kyrgyz President] Akayev visited the European Commission twice, where he had talks with its heads—Hans van der Broek and Leon Brittan. At the end of these meetings a partnership and cooperation agreement between the European Union [EU] and Kyrgyzstan was initialled.

The economic theme was also of paramount importance during bilateral talks held in the Egmont palace where the high guests of the Belgian Government are usually received. A. Akayev had talks with Robert Urbain, minister for foreign trade and European affairs. At the end of this meeting a joint declaration in which the sides stated their decision to intensify cooperation in political and economic spheres was initialled.

On Wednesday the Kyrgyz president will have meetings in the NATO headquarters, where he will sign the framework document of the Partnership for Peace program.

President Announces Intention To Join Partnership For Peace

BR3105113394 Brussels LA LIBRE BELGIQUE in French 31 May 94 p4

[Interview with President Askar Akayev by Boris Toumanov in Moscow; date not given: "Kyrgyzstan: A Bridge Between East and West"—first paragraph is LA LIBRE BELGIQUE introduction]

[Text] Askar Akayev, president of the Central Asian republic of Kyrgyzstan, will arrive on a visit to Belgium on Tuesday [31 May]. During the visit, he will meet with Belgian leaders and European Union [EU] and NATO officials. Before he left, he explained to our correspondent in Moscow the purpose of the visit and the limits on the cooperation he envisages with the twelve. Kyrgyzstan, he said, wants to be a bridge between East and West. [Akayev] Kyrgyzstan is currently taking only its first steps on the road toward a market economy, democracy, and integration into the world community. I am still convinced that we will see fruitful cooperation between our two countries.

With NATO, Too

[Toumanov] What do you expect on the practical level from your contacts in Brussels with the EU and NATO? Does your country plan to participate in the Partnership for Peace?

[Akayev] A few days ago, the EU and Kyrgyzstan initialed the agreement on partnership and cooperation. Kyrgyzstan is keen to develop cooperation with the military-political union of NATO, especially in the field of technical aid and environmental conservation and protection. We believe the Partnership for Peace to be an important document contributing to the efforts toward consolidating peace and security on the Europe-Asia continent, and that is why Kyrgyzstan intends to participate in this initiative.

[Toumanov] You are virtually the only leader of a CIS state to support the proposal to transform the CIS into a Euro-Asiatic union running along the same lines as the EU. At the same time, many observers explain Moscow's frosty welcome for this initiative because of its strictly egalitarian nature which runs counter to the "assembly of lands" logic that currently dominates Russian politics. Do you think this trend endangers the processes of integration within the CIS, and how do you see the Community evolving in this context?

[Akayev] We support any initiative likely to consolidate the CIS and we consider that the creation of bilateral or multilateral unions in the community contributes greatly to this. As far as the "assembly of lands" logic is concerned, I must point out that Kyrgyzstan is in favor of a tighter union of the new independent states. In any case, it is no longer possible to return to a union based on the criteria of the old totalitarian system.

Between Russia and China

[Toumanov] Since Kyrgyzstan became independent—while maintaining its traditional relations with Russia—it has been unable to avoid the influence of geopolitical factors, such as the fact that it borders on China. What role does this fact play in regional policy? Is your country concerned about the geographical proximity of the nuclear range of Lob Nor?

[Akayev] Russia is still our privileged partner in the economic, military, and political domain, and we want to strengthen and develop this cooperation in the future. However, we enjoy excellent and good-neighborly relations with China. Kyrgyzstan's geopolitical situation means that we have to play a positive role as a bridge linking East and West. As for the Lob Nor range, our action is based on the criteria of the international conventions directed toward putting a global end to nuclear testing.

[Toumanov] What role do you think the "Islamic factor" has to play in the civil war in neighboring Tajikistan? Does it represent a real threat to stability in Central Asia?

[Akayev] The main reason for the civil war in Tajikistan is the fight for power between the clans, a war that began far back in history. The religious factor has never been anything more than an instrument of this rivalry to which the servants of Islam often fall prey. The "Islamization" of the newly independent states is very unlikely to become a danger for Central Asia whose stability is, on the contrary, above all threatened by the lack of a suitable culture and a suitable legal basis for relations between the states of the region.

Tajikistan

Iran To Host New Round of Peace Talks

LD3105161194 Tehran IRNA in English 1449 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Dushanbe, May 31, IRNA—A senior Tajik official here Tuesday expressed satisfaction with Tehran's hosting of second round of talks between the Tajik Government and opposition forces.

Tajik Foreign Minister Rashid Olimov, speaking to visiting head of CIS and Caucasus Affairs Department of the Iranian Foreign Ministry Mehdi Mohtashami, called for further expansion of Tehran-Dushanbe relations and direct air link between the two countries.

Mohtashami, on behalf of the Islamic Republic, formally invited the Tajik foreign minister to take part at the second round of talks to be held in Tehran late in June.

The Iranian envoy has also invited Russian officials to participate in the negotiations.

Ammunition Depots Found in Pamir Highlands

LD0106095394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0839 GMT 1 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe June 1 TASS—A total of 11 big underground ammunition depots were found in Tajik Pamir highlands during a joint raid carried out by the local security units and Tajik interior troops. Field engineers removed a large number of explosives, ammunition, rocket shells, unexploded air bombs and spare parts for them, mostly of foreign origin, ITAR-TASS learned from the headquarters of the Tajik Defence Ministry today.

The aim of the search operation conducted at the end of May was to inspect whether army units of the Defence Ministry were ready to cut short possible attempts by the Tajik opposition to destabilise the political situation in the area of Pamir highlands and confiscate weapons illegally kept by the local population.

The Tajik Defence Ministry admitted the presence of anti- government formations in gorges located in hardly accessible areas of Pamir highlands, including in the Tavildarinsk and Darvas regions. However, military sources said that the groups were not big and posed no serious threat. The local population does not support anti-government formations, since the majority of the Tajik residents support the present constitutional government and its efforts to stabilise the political situation both in the Pamir region and in the entire republic.

Tajik defence minister, Major-General Aleksandr Shishlyannikov, dismissed rumours spread by some Western media alleging that there are areas in the Pamir region offering serious armed resistance to the authorities. In a recent interview to Russian journalists the Tajik defence minister said in his usual sharp manner that "the alleged presence of thousand-strong detachments of fighters of the opposition in Tajik mountains is pure imagination of the irreconcilable opposition and some journalists."

At the same time the general pointed out that the Tajik Government does not intend to remain indifferent to incidents of terroristic attacks launched by Tajik militants both against lawful representatives of the military, local authorities and peaceful civilians. According to the general, detachments of the Tajik government forces keep the situation in the Pamir region under control and heavily guard the Khaburabad mountain road, ensuring the safety of cargoes on a highway connecting central Tajikistan with the Gorno-Badakhshan autonomous region.

Armenia

Baku Claims Armenians Invade Nakhichevan Enclave

LD3105124094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1102 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Following preliminary artillery [fire], 500-strong Armenian divisions, backed by armored vehicles, invaded Azerbaijan's Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic last Monday.

The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry told INTERFAX that the Armenians launched an attack on the village of Gyuinnet in Nakhichevan's Sadarak region, killing four Azerbaijani servicemen, wounding two and taking three hostage.

Baku says that Armenian formations advanced about 5 kilometers into Nakhichevan, consolidating their positions on the occupied heights.

INTERFAX has not yet obtained any information from the Armenian Defense Ministry.

Armenian Defense Ministry Denies Attack

NC3105204894 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1950 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry and [words indistinct] news agencies have distributed yet more misinformation on the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. According to these reports, an allegedly 500-strong Armenian unit, covered by artillery barrage and supported by armored vehicles and tanks, invaded and advanced 5 kilometers into Azerbaijani territory and occupied a strategically important hill.

The Armenian Defense Ministry Press Service said that the misinformation on an Armenian attack on Nakhichevan is mere calumny, the entire responsibility for which rests with the Azerbaijani Defense [words indistinct].

Protocol With Crimea Covers Trade, Air Transport

NC3105190394 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0734 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Yerevan ("LRAGIR" daily), 05/31/94—A meeting between the RA [Republic of Armenia] governmental delegation and the Crimean authorities has been carried out in Crimea recently, and a corresponding protocol was signed.

According to the protocol, Armenia should encourage the return of Crimean Armenians, who have been departed to Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and elsewhere by Stalin, back to Crimea.

According to the second topic of the protocol, the Armenian authorities will participate in restoring more than 15 churches in the territory of Crimea.

Historically, together with Genoans, Armenians owned an 18 hectares fortress in Fedosya, with a port and a customs office. According to the protocol, the Crimean authorities allocated this territory to the Armenian community and Armenia. 70 inhabitants, who currently live on this territory, will be moved, and Armenia is going to build a house for these people. The territory will belong to Armenia. According to the next topic of the protocol, specialists from Armenia are to participate in the construction of this building.

A trade-economic link between Armenia and Crimea will be established according to another topic. Among other activities, this includes relations between the people of Armenia and Crimea.

A huge territory has been dedicated in the central part of Simferopol, which will be used as a trade house. A similar territory will be dedicated to Crimea in Yerevan.

The protocol also concerns the use of Crimean air territories, particularly the Simferopol airport, by Armenia. Simferopol's authorities agreed to this. On the other side, Crimea will be using the Yerevan airport for their flights to Teheran and other Eastern countries. Five Crimean ports will be used for creating economic links between Armenia and Crimea, as well as for transferring cargoes to third countries.

Situation at Battle Fronts Unchanged

NC3105183894 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0734 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Stepanakert ("AZG", "YERKIR" dailies), 05/31/94 —The general situation at the RMK [Republic of Mountainous Karabakh] fronts remains unchanged, and no active military operations are reported.

Nevertheless, the RMK Defense Army headquarters report, the Azeri forces shelled the Karabakh defense positions at the villages of Talish, Seisulan, Hasanghaya in the Mardakertskiy District and Shurabad and Namirli in the Agdamskiy District. No casualties are reported.

At the same time "YERKIR" reports, the situation at the South-Eastern fronts aggravated again in the night of May 25. Several Azeri units carried fierce shelling of the Armenian defense positions at the villages of Karakhanbeyli and Gorgan in the Fizulinskiy District, followed by an offensive attempting to recapture a number of important heights. Fierce battles have been carried out in this direction. The RMK armed forces stopped the offensive and drove the enemy back to the initial positions. Thirteen Azeri soldiers have reportedly been killed.

Commenting on violations of the cease fire, a representative of the RMK Defense Army, Serzh Arushanyan, said the Azeri command is unable to completely control the armed forces. In particular, they have no power over the units controlled by the opposition. According to Arushanyan, this is a consequence of the political tension in Baku. This may again result in further increase of

tension at the RMK fronts, if Geydar Aliyev does not convince the corresponding spheres in absence of prospects in continuing the war.

Using the temporary cease fire, the Karabakh side started the procedures of exchanging prisoners of war and corpses. According to the head of a corresponding department Aleksandr Agasaryan, representatives of the Azeri authorities are not quite willing to carry the exchange, and prefer selling the prisoners to their relatives. A number of high-ranking Azeri authorities make great money through this trade.

Nevertheless, the Karabakh Commission on Prisoners of War and Hostages freed 5 Armenians from the Azeri prison, having exchanged them with 12 hostages, among them 5 fighters.

Iranian Delegation Discusses Industrial Standards

NC3105205394 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1900 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Today Armenian Vice President Gagik Arutyunyan received Mir Ahmad Sadat, head of the Standards and Industrial Research Institute of the Islamic Republic of Iran; [name indistinct], deputy head of the metal production department of the institute; and [name indistinct], of the [word indistinct] department.

In greeting the guests, the republic's vice president attached major significance to the agreements to be signed soon between the Iranian Standards and Industrial Research Institute and the Armenian Department of Standardization, Measurements, and Certification.

Mr. Arutyunyan hoped that the document slated for signing and the mutual recognition of standards and certificates will contribute to the development of close cooperation between Iran and Armenia in the trade and industrial sectors.

During the meeting the sides stressed the need to organize scientific symposiums and seminars and exchange information on standardization and measurements.

Gukas Megrapyan, head of the Armenian Department for Standardization, Measurements, and Certification, and Iranian Charge d'Affaires in Armenia Ahmad Sobhani were present at the meeting.

Azerbaijan

Possible Introduction of Presidential Rule Mooted

LD3105200494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1840 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] The Azerbaijani leadership is discussing the possible introduction of presidential rule in the republic and dismissal of the parliament, a high-ranking official close to the office of Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev told INTERFAX. He asked to remain anonymous. The source did not mention details.

Acting Chief of the president's Press Service Salahaddin Guliyev said in an interview with INTERFAX that the parliament would not be dismissed in the near future. Neither would presidential rule or other emergency measures be introduced.

Observers in Baku stressed that the Azerbaijani media had recently repeatedly mentioned appeals on the part of refugees demanding the dismissal of the parliament and to declaration of presidential rule.

Aide Urges Removal of People's Front From Parliament

LD3105205894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1926 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Azerbaijani State Aide Arif Ragimzade proposed that high-ranking members of the opposition People's Front be removed from the parliament. This concerned former foreign minister Tofik Gasymov and First Deputy Chairman of the People's Front Ibrahim Ibrahimov.

Ragimzade proposed it this morning when the parliament was discussing the social-political situation in Azerbaijan on the initiative of Speaker Rasul Guliyev. The situation in Azerbaijan has become more tense due to the opposition protesting the position of the authorities on the settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Azerbaijani Interior Minister Ramil Usubov laid the responsibility for the situation at the door of leader of the National Independence opposition party Etibar Mamedov.

In his turn, Mamedov blamed Usubov for misinformation of the Azerbaijani leadership and for actions of the police which, in his mind, were undermining stability in the country.

Former foreign minister Gasymov said that Speaker Guliyev was triggering off the tension since Guliyev had refused to discuss the Bishkek protocol on settlement in Karabakh in the parliament. This made the opposition take action.

Two Deputies Expelled From Parliament

NC3105204494 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Republic's National Assembly continued its session today.

In opening the morning session, the Chairman of the Parliament, Rasul Guliyev, gave detailed information on the sociopolitical situation arising from recent violations of law in the republic's capital and other rayons. The chairman of the Supreme Soviet then proposed that these matters be discussed at the parliament.

Interior Minister Ramil Usubov briefed the deputies in detail on this problem. He said that the opposition's

attempt to hold a rally on 21 May had grave consequences, and he declared the participation of some deputies in the organization of unauthorized rallies to be against the law.

The deputies expressed their views on these events and their effect on the sociopolitical situation.

After the recess, the deputies continued the debate, emphasizing especially the impermissibility of acting against the law in the present conditions.

People's deputy Arif Rehimzade proposed that parliamentarians Tofik Gasymov [former foreign minister and a member of Azerbaijan's People's Front, APF] and Ibrahim Ibrahimov [a leader of the APF] be deprived of membership in parliament for aggravating the situation in the republic and for instigating people to hold a rally.

The National Assembly deprived parliamentarian Tofik Gasymov and Ibrahim Ibrahimov of their membership in parliament for causing lawless acts, attempting to organize a rally, and instigating people to join the rally. Abbas Abbasov [deputy prime minister and head of State Committee for International Relations] and Gulabbas Kahramanov were elected members of parliament.

With this, the National Assembly concluded its session.

Georgia

Shevardnadze, CIS Official Discuss Peacekeeping Troops

LD3105191494 Moscow NTV in Russian 1800 GMT 31 May 94

[Video report from Tbilisi by correspondent D. Keliselidze]

[Text] [Announcer] The introduction of CIS peacekeeping forces to the area of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict may begin on 10 June. This has just been announced after a meeting between Eduard Shevardnadze and CIS Acting Secretary Korotchenya.

[Keliselidze] Today Eduard Shevardnadze had a half-hour meeting at Tbilisi airport with Ivan Korotchenya, chairman of the CIS acting secretariat. The fact that the meeting took place at the airport and that there was no time for the traditional Georgian hospitality showed that this visit was urgent and concerned important questions. And that's how it was.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin, head of the council of the CIS states, had appealed to the leaders of CIS countries to examine the question of introducing peacekeeping troops into the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone, as he was asked to by Georgian Head of State Eduard Shevardnadze and Abkhazian Supreme Soviet Chairman Vladislav Ardzinba. In order to resolve this question then according to procedure, it was necessary to get the agreement of all countries in the CIS. Ivan Korotchenya, before his arrival in Tbilisi, had already visited the central Asian states, and intends in the next few days to visit Baku and Yerevan, and then go to Moldova and Ukraine.

Concerning the question of a possible date for the introduction of peacekeeping forces into the conflict zone, Ivan Korotchenya said:

[Begin Korotchenya recording] By 10 June. Well, 10 to 15 June. On this there is probably a need for a final decision which will be taken by the Russian president. [end recording]

[Keliselidze] Eduard Shevardnadze in his turn thanked the CIS leaders who responded positively to Yeltsin's appeal for the introduction of peacekeeping forces into the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone.

Abkhaz Council To Move to Zugdidi

LD3105192094 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1600 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Tomorrow, 1 June, the [pro-Georgian Tbilisi-based] Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia is moving office to Zugdidi, from where it will continue to perform its duties. The Council of Ministers of Abkhazia has issued the following statement.

In connection with the start of peacekeeping operations in Abkhazia and preparation for the first stage of the return of refugees and displaced persons to their homeland, the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia requests the governors of the town of Gali and Gali Rayon villages, the heads of enterprises, institutions, and organizations, and representatives of government structures to take part in a republican meeting which will be held in the governor's office in the town of Zugdidi at 1200 on 3 June.

Colonels Detained for Participation in Assassinations

LD0106123394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1012 GMT 1 Jun 94

[Text] A total of five high-ranking officials of the Georgian power ministries were detained in May. They are suspected of participating in the assassination of defense minister Nikoloz Kekelidze and deputy defense minister and chief of transport police Giya Gulua. Reliable sources told Interfax that all the detained are colonels.

Kekelidze was killed as a result of an explosion on February 3 morning in his house in Tbilisi. Gulua had been killed near his house in Tbilisi on April 20 morning.

During the recent six months about ten terrorist acts against high-ranking officers of the Defense Ministry, the Interior Ministry and the Mkhedrioni armed group have been carried out in Georgia. Chief of the Mkhedrioni Rustav regional department Temur Talakhadze was

killed in January, a Security Ministry officer Vasil Koberidze in February. None of the murderers has been found.

Georgia Importing Weapons From Russia, East Europe

LD3105164594 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1400 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Tbilisi, 31 May—Apart from the weapons they have been receiving from the Transcaucasus Military District (since 1992), the authorities in the Republic of Georgia have also been buying weapons (mostly, firearms) on the territory of the Russian Federation and from eastern European countries, namely, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Romania.

A small consignment (not more than several hundred weapons) of Polish-made 7.62mm-calibre collapsible Kalashnikov automatic guns has been imported from Poland, while 7.62mm-calibre submachine guns have been imported from Czeckoslovakia and distributed among security officers guarding government buildings.

The largest number of Kalashnikov automatic guns arrived in Georgia from Romania. (It must be noted that Romanian-made Kalashnikovs are of rather poor quality.) The first consignment of (7.62-calibre) automatic guns came in two marine cargo containers aboard a Romanian ship and was unloaded near Batumi in 1992. Since no one appeared to have ordered the weapons, it was assumed that they had been ordered by the government of ex-Georgian president Gamsakhurdia.

In 1993, Shevardnadze's government imported up to 8,000 5.45mm-calibre Romanian-made Kalashnikov automatic guns (for the price of about $120 each).

National-Democratic Party Tops Party Popularity Poll

AU3005204994 Tbilisi AKHALI TAOBA in Georgian 20 May 94 p 1

[Unattributed report on the results of an opinion poll: "The Population's Sympathies Lie With the Opposition"]

[Text] At the beginning of May, a sociological survey was carried out with the aim of establishing the popularity rating of political parties. The following political organizations topped the poll: The National-Democratic Party, the Republican Party, and the Popular Front. It is significant that the Union of [Georgia's] Citizens that was widely publicized by the authorities and that is led by the present head of state was only in ninth place.

As can be seen, the population's sympathies basically lean toward the opposition. This is also shown by the fact that eight of the 10 leading political organizations belong to the opposition. This shows once more that society is expecting significant changes in the government.

Popularity Rating of the Leading Political Organizations in Georgia

	negative assessment	positive assessment
	(percentage)	
National-Democratic Party	-31.4	44.6
Republican Party	-38.1	35.4
Popular Front	-38.5	31.6
Merab Kostava Society	-50.9	26.6
Charter-91	-43.7	25.6
Christian-Democratic Party	-35.3	25.5
Greens Movement	-59.1	25.2
Union of Traditionalists	-43.7	23.9
Union of [Georgia's] Citizens	-58.6	23.5
[Ilia] Chavchavadze Society	-52.3	19.5
Liberal-Democratic Party	-45.6	19.4
[Conservative-] Monarchist Party	-48.4	16.4
Constitutional-Democratic Party	-56.1	15.0
Round Table	-77.7	10.3
Social-Democratic Party	-78.3	07.8
National Independence Party	-75.5	06.2

The poll was conducted for AKHALI TAOBA by the "Inform Service" firm in Tbilisi on 7-8 May.

Estonia

Finnish President Holds Talks With President, Premier

WS0106102794 Tallinn BNS in English 1748 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Tallinn, May 31, BNS—Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, on a visit to Estonia, met with Estonian President Lennart Meri, Parliament Chairman Ulo Nugis and Prime Minister Mart Laar in Tallinn today.

The presidents at their meeting discussed mainly Estonia's relations with Russia, but also Estonia's integration with the European structures, Raul Malk, deputy chancellor of the Foreign Ministry told BNS.

The press office of the Estonian presidential chancellery said Ahtisaari at the meeting had expressed his support for Estonia in the country's demand that Russian troops be pulled out from its territory by Aug. 31. The presidents also spoke about the topic of the retired Russian military living in Estonia. The Finnish leader informed his Estonian counterpart about his meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin. Meri spoke about the results of last week's visit by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev to Tallinn.

The Finnish president then continued to the parliament and the government house at Toompea, where he met with State Assembly Chairman Ulo Nugis and Prime Minister Mart Laar. Cooperation between the Estonian and Finnish parliaments was the main topic at the meeting between Ahtisaari and Nugis, the parliament press office reported. Nugis at the meeting spoke at some length about the main problems the parliament is working on at the moment. Also discussed were current issues of the interior and domestic policy.

At the meeting with the Estonian prime minister, the Finnish president again clearly expressed support for Estonia's efforts over Russian troop withdrawal and the hope that Estonia and Russia despite current hardships will reach the necessary agreements on the issue. Ahtisaari said Finland will continue assistance to Estonia's defense forces, border guard and police, Laar said.

Also discussed at the meeting were economic relations between the two countries. Laar said the Finnish president had expressed satisfaction at Estonia's economic progress and emphasized the importance of keeping up the free trade agreements between Estonia and Finland, including the one on farm products.

Ahtisaari and Laar contended that Finland's prospective joining with the European Union would have a positive effect on Estonia as well as the entire Baltic region. The Finnish president expressed hope that his country's people will vote for EU membership in the national EU referendum, Laar said. Other topics discussed at the meeting included environmental cooperation, the Via Baltica road transit route project and setting up a gas pipeline to connect the Nordic region, Baltics and Central Europe.

From the parliament and government house at Toompea, the Finnish presidential couple and Estonian President Lennart Meri continued to the nearby Dome Church. The Finnish president later visited the Tallinn Town Hall, meeting with Tallinn Mayor Jaak Tamm. At 4.45 p.m. the Finnish president laid a wreath at a monument in central Tallinn to youth killed in Estonia's War of Independence.

President Ahtisaari and the director general of Finfound, Markku Pekonen, gave a press conference later in the day. Ahtisaari in his remarks to reporters again emphasized that Finland is and will remain the largest trade partner for Estonia, and that this is being positively referred to by both sides.

When asked by a BNS correspondent whether the Finnish president at talks with the Estonian leaders also discussed introducing visa- free travel between the countries, Ahtisaari answered that the topic had not been on the agenda this time.

Ahtisaari declared Finland's support for Estonia in the country's strive to join the European Union. The president reminded of his country having backed Estonia always when the Baltic state recently has worked towards membership in international bodies.

When asked about whether Finland was having territorial claims against Russia, Ahtisaari's answer was negative. "Each state must determine by itself what position to adopt as to the border issue," he said.

Speaking about relations with Russia, the Finnish president said he regards it as most important that movement toward democratization and market economy would continue in that country.

Ahtisaari said Finland and Estonia as neighboring countries must keep each other well informed. "No political diversities exist between us; there are a number of issues that are of great interest for both of our countries," he said.

The Finnish president also visited the Estonian Foreign Ministry and had a meeting with staff at his country's embassy in Tallinn. President Lennart Meri gives a dinner in honor of his Finnish counterpart later in the evening.

The Finnish president's visit continues with a trip to Estonia's second-largest city, Tartu, Wednesday.

This is the first time since 1925 that a Finnish president pays a state visit to Estonia, said the Estonian Ambassador to Finland, Jaak Joeruut. He added that the heads of state of both countries had visited each other also after that, but that those trips had been lower-key ones. Joeruut further pointed out that Ahtisaari was visiting Estonia shortly after his election as president, which, the ambassador said, shows what importance Finland attaches to contacts with Estonia.

Finnish Offer of Russian Mediation Turned Down

LD3105141994 Helsinki Suomen Yleisradio Network in Finnish 1300 GMT 31 May 94

[Report by Sinikka Siekkinen from Tallinn]

[Text] As expected, the relations between Estonia and Russia were a central topic in the talks during the first day of President Martti Ahtisaari's visit. Ahtisaari spent most

of his time today in talks with Lennart Meri, his Estonian colleague. According to the Estonian political leadership, some light can be discerned in the talks with the Russians, to the extent that Estonia believes it will be able to solve the problem of the Russian soldiers with Russia bilaterally.

This optimism is a consequence of talks with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev a few days ago and of the fact that Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin is due in Estonia next week. According to Lennart Meri, it would now seem that a mediator is not needed. Meri has also told this to President Ahtisaari. Meri said that Ahtisaari had, however, made a beautiful symbolic gesture by telling the Estonians that he can always offer the negotiators premises, light, and food, if they so wish. But according to Meri, Estonia will return to the mediation task after the last day of August at the earliest, if the troops of the former Soviet Army have not left Estonia by then.

Ahtisaari's visit has taken place so far in a warm atmosphere. An Estonian daily even wrote that a new Ahtisaari era is beginning in Finnish-Estonian relations.

Loan Agreement Signed With Sweden

WS0106063794 Tallinn BNS in English 1249 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Tallinn, May 31, BNS—Estonia signed an agreement Friday with the Swedish Government on a 10 million U.S. dollar loan, the Estonian Embassy in Stockholm said.

The loan is part of an extensive World Bank loan scheme aimed for the renovation of Estonia's heating systems.

Because of the large size of the project, part of the loan for carrying it out comes from the Swedish Government and the European Investment Bank.

Estonia signed a 38.4 million dollar loan agreement with the World Bank Friday.

Negotiations with the European Investment Bank on financing the same project are under way in Luxembourg today and tomorrow.

The project foresees the retrofitting of a number of municipal heating systems in Tallinn, Tartu and Parnu toward more fuel economy and using of local fuels. The money also goes to major repairs on Tallinn's major boiler-house of Iru and transition to local fuels in about 40 smaller boiler-houses all over the country.

Latvia

Foreign Minister Admits Former Ties With KGB

LD2805132194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1301 GMT 28 May 94

[Text] Riga May 28 TASS—Latvian Foreign Minister Georgs Andrejevs admitted his former contacts with the KGB. His confession on 50 type-written pages is published by the DIENA newspaper on Saturday.

It is mostly devoted to a story on the years of his studies at school and Institute as well as of work in medicine and as foreign minister since October 1992. Andrejevs gave "agreement to supply limited information on his profession" to "a recruiter" in 1963 when he was chief republican anesthesiologist.

The confession is written in the form of an open letter to voters, friends and legislators. Parliament suspended Andrejevs' mandate after his name, as well as the names of other lawmakers, were found in the catalogue of KGB agents.

Addressing the Sejm, Andrejevs asked it to vote for preserving of annulling his mandate [as received]. He also noted that the Sejm should express its attitude to the post he holds: To leave him in the ministerial chair or to express no-confidence.

The letter's author did not recognise himself guilty and noted that, to his mind, "appropriate political forces in Russia and, possibly in Latvia, did not wish his participation in the signing ceremony of the intergovernment treaties in Moscow.

His negative attitude to the agreement on Russian war pensioners "did not pass unnoticed by enemies in Latvia and in the neighbourhood." According to Andrejevs' opinion, this is one of the reasons for making public five names of lawmakers.

He said it is an absurdity that former leading statesmen whose privileged position had precluded, at that time, a possibility of their registration at KGB files, "can again, with impunity, occupy top political posts and not only in the Sejm" and seal the fate of other "suspects."

Ulmanis Denies Receiving Letter on KGB Ties

WS3105133294 Tallinn BNS in English 0939 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Riga, May 30, BNS—Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis urged people to "assess the produce of various press editions a bit more critically because they may be attempted to blackmail us."

The president said this Monday in an answer to reporters' questions about the publication of allegations of a parliament member being a KGB informer dubbed Varis.

He also denied having received the letter containing such information as suggested by its author, Viktors Alksnis, a former Soviet Supreme Council deputy.

"More serious provocations may face the president and the government in the future" because the Baltic states and Latvia are still trying to gain international prestige, Ulmanis said.

The media were acquainted with the letter by the Interfax and Baltic News Service news agencies.

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